

the chronicle

Singing postie

Crooning postman ready to deliver at talent show

See page 15



Memory Lane

Miners' fancy dress fun in 1920s Pelsall

See page 30



Saddlers

Mantom signs on for survival push

See page 56



Work club offering help to find jobs

WALSALL Library Service will run a weekly work club this month for those looking for employment or interested in a career change.

The free sessions are at Pleck Library, Darlaston Road, on Tuesday afternoons, with the first session on April 17.

The weekly surgery will help adults (16 and over) to receive advice and support when looking for work, including using the internet, completing online job application forms, finding training placements, updating a CV and writing letters.

Visitors can drop in on a Tuesday between 2pm and 4pm.

Individual appointments are available but must be booked on (01922) 653139.

A Titanic theme for exhibition

A COMMUNITY centre in Walsall will be commemorating the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic with an exhibition day.

The event, at the Stan Ball Centre in Abbotts Street, Bloxwich, will be open on Friday, April 13, between 10am and 4pm.

Artists are preparing pieces of Titanic inspired work, as are the centre's sugarcraft and art students.

Appealing

Deb Brownlee, Young at Heart Project co-ordinator said: "We are appealing for the loan for the day of Titanic memorabilia, souvenirs, pictures, models and photographs."

"We still have some tables free so we are appealing for local people to search lofts and cupboards and bring their Titanic items."

Anyone with items should call Karen Smith on (01922) 403351.

Industrial link to the tragic Titanic - see page 4

BEST OF CARE IS HOSPITAL PLEDGE

A NEW multi-million-pound intensive care unit at Walsall Manor Hospital will be amongst the very best, say health chiefs.

The £6 million unit will have 16 beds and provide increased capacity for patients under ambitious plans to further redevelop the hospital off Pleck Road. It is due to replace the current high dependency and critical care units, which have six beds each, and the new unit is expected to open in early 2014.

Health chiefs at the Manor say it will rival facilities available at other hospitals.

Chief executive Richard Kirby said: "Patients can get the most specialised care in a really good unit that is as good as what anywhere else has got."

"Our ability to make sure we can always have an ITU bed available for an emergency patient will be increased."

Transformation

The plans form part of the hospitals' Foundation Trust application, along with the £6 million redevelopment of the A&E department.

Bosses say discussions over the accident and emergency department transformation are on-going to decide over whether it will be a rebuild or refurbishment.

This is due to be carried out after work on the intensive care unit and is not expected to be completed until around 2015. The improvement work is being proposed as the number of visitors has increased since the A&E was first built.

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust will still push ahead

Report by Craig Hughes

with the plans regardless of the Foundation Trust application. A public consultation is currently being undertaken and a formal application will be submitted to the Department for Health in October. A decision is then expected by independent regulators Monitor from next April.

One of the main benefits of the status is to give the hospital greater control of its own finances.

The hospital has already undergone a £170 million redevelopment over the last few years.

The new-look Manor was launched in three phases with the Family Health and Diagnostics Centre, the Manor Learning and Conference Centre - which has a 150-seat lecture theatre with video links to operating theatres - and the Outpatient and Day Case Centre.

Aim to save 60 lives - see page 2

Language is history topic

WALSALL Family History Group's next meeting will be at St Matthew's Community Centre, Walsall, on Wednesday, April 11, at 7.30pm. The talk will be called 'Watch Your Language'. Visitors are welcome, it is £2 admission and membership is £10 per year. Refreshments and a raffle will be available.

Community shocked at murder of 92-year-old



War veteran Bill Davis

STUNNED neighbours in Willenhall haven spoken of their shock after a 92-year-old great-grandfather was murdered in his own home.

Former Royal Navy officer Bill Davis was pronounced dead at his home in Hobley Street on Sunday evening, sparking a murder hunt. A post mortem revealed the former Josiah Parkes lock worker died as a result of significant head injuries.

Forensic investigations are still taking place in and around the widower's home, where he was found collapsed by neighbours.

Friendly

Police said Mr Davis was a decorated war hero who was fiercely independent and kept his home and garden immaculate.

Detectives revealed one of the last people to see him alive was his neighbour, who cooked him a lunch on Sunday afternoon and brought it round to his house. The alarm was then raised when the great-grandfather could not be raised later on.

Horrified residents paid tribute to Mr Davis, who they say was friendly, courteous and proud of his Royal Navy background.

The father-of-two was married to Clara for more than 60 years. She died in 2006.

Mani Madaan, aged 22, of Jays Store in Walsall Road, said: "He was a nice person and always chatty."

Anyone with information is asked to call Force CID on 101.

It's hat's off to one big bonnet

FORGET the usual Easter bonnet parade - creative pupils at a Walsall school were challenged to create the biggest single bonnet they could.

The mission was part of the Walsall school's Lent appeal, which has so far seen £3,000 raised for Islamic Relief.

Sixth form pupils at Blue Coat C E Comprehensive School hosted an Easter fun day, welcoming younger children from the Blue Coat CE Junior School and Chuckery Primary School.

Decorations

Lots of activities were on offer and pupils made the biggest Easter bonnet they could, each contributing decorations.

The fun day raised £150 for charity.

The huge Easter bonnet went on display at Blue Coat Junior School for the younger pupils to enjoy.

Amanda Cuff, head of sixth form at the secondary school, in Birmingham Street, said all year groups took part.

She added: "This is something our school does every year and they always raise a great amount of money."



What a whopper! Pupils Precious Olaofe, aged 10, Hope Geddes, 18, Chloe Hale, 17, Jordan Moore, 18, George Cresswell, 9, and Bareera Percaiz, 9, with the giant Easter bonnet they have helped to make at Blue Coat Comprehensive School, Walsall

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CONTENTS

Peter Rhodes	4
Clubs	18
Letters	28
Memory Lane	30
TV Listings	35-37
Puzzles	38
Property	39-46
Motoring	47-49
Classified	50-54
Sport	55-56

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New network aims to save 60 lives

WALSALL Manor Hospital has been named as a specialist trauma unit to help boost the survival chances of patients who suffer life-threatening injuries.

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust has been named as part of the new Trauma Care Network System, which has been launched across the NHS in the West Midlands.

The system is made up of three trauma care networks, each with a

major trauma centre at its heart. Each is supported by a trauma unit, to include Walsall Manor Hospital.

It means patients who suffer very serious injuries will be taken to a major trauma unit for treatment.

But where they are too unwell to be transported to the major trauma centre or are more than 45 minutes away from it, they will be taken to the nearest unit to be stabilised.

Dr Najam Rashid, clinical director

for Accident and Emergency at Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, said: "This new trauma care network system is designed to transform the care that people receive and will provide an improved model of care to patients across the whole region."

"It will help to improve the chances of survival for patients after a major trauma injury by giving them specialist expertise."

After being treated at a major

trauma unit, patients are then transferred back to a local hospital.

NHS West Midlands has said it hopes to save a further 60 lives each year under the new system.

Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, Birmingham Children's Hospital, the University Hospital of Coventry and University Hospital of North Staffordshire in Stoke-on-Trent have all been given the trauma centre designation.

New Waterfront South homes are on schedule

THE REMAINDER of Walsall's multi-million pound Waterfront South project is due to finish this autumn.

Keys to the block of 82 canalside apartments were handed over to residents last week, marking a milestone in the progress of the ambitious development which started two years ago. Around 300 homes are being created in the heart

Growing concern at attacks on vice girls

AT LEAST 10 prostitutes have been assaulted on the borough's streets in the past year, prompting police to step up efforts to tackle the vice trade.

A total of 42 kerb crawlers have been caught in the borough since last February as part of the on-going Operation Nominal. Persistent vice girls have been issued with criminal anti-social behaviour orders in a bid to keep them of the streets.

Police have revealed there have also been a series of sexual assaults, of the 10 incidents reported to them six arrests have been made.

The assaults since last February occurred on Milton Street, Scarborough Road, Wednesbury Road, Glebe Street, Bentley Mill Way, Walsall; Station Street and Pinfold Street, Darlaston; and Crook Lane, Great Barr.

Sergeant Richard Jacques said: "We are aware of a number of sexual assaults on sex workers and will not tolerate this kind of crime."

"We are pleased to report that over a 15 month period we have managed to detect and make arrests for over 60 per cent of these type of crimes."

of the town with work now well under way on the last phase, which is expected to be completed in September.

The Waterfront South complex started with the construction of the main 111-apartment block and 22 houses, which were ready for families last Easter.

The rest of the scheme to have two apartment blocks of 82 flats each, one now finished and the second is being built, will roll out over the next six months.

Regeneration

The regeneration project off Wolverhampton Street is being completed by Cannock-based developers Jessup.

Spokesman Ian Jackson said: "Work is well on the way. The final block will be completed by September."

Caldmore Housing Association, which is part of the Accord Group, has taken over the first 82 flats which will be for people on housing waiting lists and will offer 'affordable' rents.

Solar plan to power lights

WALSALL Housing Group is hoping to save thousands of pounds by fitting solar panels to 12 low-rise flats in Streetly and Pheasey.

The panels will generate electricity to power lighting in the communal areas. Additional energy will be sold to National Grid. It is hoped the sale will generate an income of around £450,000 over 25 years.

Pupils help dreams come true



Mossley Primary School fundraisers had enough money left over from their playground appeal to help a charity. The generous pupils are pictured celebrating at the tyre park launch including, front, Reece Badland, aged 10, and Ben Morris, 11

PUPILS at a Bloxwich school donated some of the money intended for their playground scheme to a children's charity.

The nine youngsters at Mossley Primary School in Bloxwich raised nearly £1,200 for the playground at its Tintern Crescent site.

During their work on cake sales, raffles, a fashion show and a sponsored treasure hunt they decided they wanted to help a charity with their efforts as well. Now the children

have presented charity Promise Dreams with £120 at the official opening of their tyre park playground.

School clerk Katie Mason said: "They have been busy little bees with their fundraising. They have done really well."

Promise Dreams raises money to make dreams come true for children who are seriously or terminally ill.

Banquet centre is given the go-ahead

PLANS for a banqueting and conference centre for up to 300 visitors in Walsall have been approved by councillors.

A two-storey former factory at Century Works in Midland Road will be demolished to make way for the four-storey complex after a scheme was approved by the planning committee last week.

Two previous proposals to change the use of the building to create a restaurant and banqueting hall did not go ahead.

Positive

In his report to the committee, head of planning David Elsworth said the scheme "generates a positive use for the site and will generate employment in the town."

He added: "The use is considered to be appropriate for the location in relation to the town centre and public transport facilities."

"The principal difference between the two previous applications is that the proposals are now demolishing and rebuilding on the site rather than a conversion."

A basement parking area with 19 spaces is part of the scheme.

Fantasy idea for designs

STUDENTS from Walsall College's interior design department are exhibiting a 3D structure called the Fantasy Hotel, at The Public in West Bromwich.

Taking inspiration from the New Street venue's Art of Architecture show, 15 students were asked by the architect of the building, Will Alsop, to imagine a 'fantasy hotel' where every room was different.

Over the last three months, each of the students have been busy building their own unique miniature rooms, with different colours, textures and techniques used to create a series of diverse environments. The display lasts to May 20.

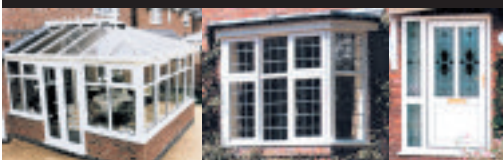
Organ recital

A LUNCHTIME organ recital will be held at Walsall Town Hall on Thursday, April 19.

Organist Peter Morris will play at the Leicester Street venue from 1pm. Admission is £2.

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Brutal raids halted

HERE is a list of the raids committed by members of the gang between October 2010 and January 2011:

- October 4. Attackers steal a £70,000 Audi RS6 at pistol point from a house in Bracebridge Road on the Four Oaks Estate.

- October 4. An opportunist thief steals a set of keys accidentally let in the front door of Roedean Close, Kingstanding, including the ignition key to a Vectra, without the owner noticing.

- October 7. The key is used to steal the Vectra and hours later it is on false plates being used as the getaway car when three masked men raided CNW jewellers in Kinver. Shop owner Clive Willetts has developed heart problems since the attack. He revealed: "I am constantly reliving the incident in my head."

- October 15. Masked robbers pounce at Field Maple Road, Streetly, snatching ignition keys to a VW 2 litre Golf from the woman occupant when she returns home.

- October 16. Masked crooks frogmarch two frightened members of staff around William Hill bookmakers in Kingstanding, while emptying cash drawers and fruit machines before taking over £2,500.

- October 20. The gang use a battering ram to burst into Laxmi Jewellers in Wednesbury Road, Walsall, and steal £9,000 worth of gold rings in 25 seconds.

- October 21. Raiders burst into the Gold Centre in Sparkhill armed with axes and hammers after the doors had been opened by one of the gang disguised in a burqa. Staff fought back, hurling furniture and filling the shop with smoke after pressing an alarm. The robbers fled empty handed.

- November 3. Man beaten up on the car park of the Church Tavern in Perry Barr by gang armed with Taser who steal ignition keys and drive off in his £25,000 BMW335.

- November 8. Robbers steal £30,000 Audi RS4 during attack by four men on house in Hillwood Road, Sutton Coldfield, in which they make threats to kill.

- November 10. A £23,000 Mazda is stolen in Dormington Road, Kingstanding.

- January 10. Burglary at house in Wood End Road, Erdington.



Nine years: Imran Zaman, aged 23, of The Cube, Birmingham, described as a gang lieutenant



Nine years: Former professional footballer Ryan Jones, 22, of Watnere, Sheffield



Six years: Levi Melbourne, 24, of Lingmoor Grove, Aldridge, serving time for killing his friend in a crash



Six and a half years: Lewis Richards, 22, of Brockwell Road, Kingstanding, suspected of wearing burqa



Six years: Larry Barnett, 26, of Goosemoor Lane, Erdington, already serving 15 years for other raids



Five years: Qaiser Rashid, 27, of Drayton Street, Alumwell, described as a gang underling

Gang is smashed by police as robbers sent to prison

POLICE have hailed a major success after putting an armed gang that brought terror to the West Midlands behind bars.

The hooded thugs struck at least 11 times in four months, targeting three jewellers, a bookmakers and a string of homes from which they escaped with luxury cars and goods worth hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Seven men were given prison terms ranging from five to 10 years at Wolverhampton Crown Court after admitting conspiracy to rob between October 2010 and January 2011.

The gang involving criminals from Walsall and Birmingham was smashed in a joint operation between the two forces that was code-named Yeoman. It led to raids on 24 addresses, spearheaded by armed officers in the early hours of May 4, 2011. As well as the arrests of several members of the gang, the move also recovered drugs, £10,000 cash, suspected stolen vehicles and an arsenal of weapons.

Detective Inspector Bob Bradford from West Midlands Force CID, who led the operation, said: "This has been a long and in-depth operation involving many officers from both Staffordshire and ourselves and so we are really pleased that all of that hard work has paid off."

Dangerous

"This was a team of organised and dangerous criminals and the length of the sentences reflects the seriousness of their crimes. The public and, in particular, businesses will be a lot safer with these men behind bars."

The gang used a handgun, stun gun, machete, axes, hammers and a home made police-style battering ram while ruthlessly attacking anybody who got in their way.

One even dressed in a full length burqa that covered his face and body to trick staff into opening a security

by John Scott

door through which the rest of the gang then rushed.

Dramatic CCTV images were recovered from the scenes of a number of the attacks. They included the gang using a battering ram to force their way into Laxmi Jewellers in Walsall, where they stole £9,000 of gold rings in a raid that lasted just 25 seconds.

In another attack, at the car park of the Church Tavern in Perry Barr, a man was shot with a Taser electric stun gun before his £25,000 BMW335 stolen.

The gang stole a string of top-of-the-range cars including a £70,000 Audi RS6, in raids on homes.

Operation Yeoman was launched after a string of robberies and car key burglaries across the region.

The first major breakthrough came as police recovered the get away car used in the raid on the Gold Centre in Sparkhill from the nearby street where it had been dumped. As the Vectra was put onto a low loader the day after the robbery another car drove into the cul-de-sac and hurriedly tried to get out again. The suspicious behaviour of the two occupants prompted their arrest. They were later revealed to be gang members Imran Zaman and Lewis Richards.

Examination of the CCTV from William Hill bookmak-



Smiling villain - gang leader Waheed Zaman, aged 31, of Calshot Road, Great Barr, has been jailed for 10 years

ers in Kingstanding, robbed five days before the Gold Centre, showed Richards and another man casing the premises before the raiders struck. Richards lived just yards away and the man with him was later identified as former professional footballer Ryan Jones.

The following month a car seen apparently driving in convoy with the £30,000 Audi stolen from Hillwood



Target for raiders - Laxmi Jewellers in Walsall



The gang use a battering ram at Laxmi Jewellers

prompted further inquiries by detectives.

Gang leader, 31-year-old Waheed Zaman, of Calshot Road, Great Barr, received 10 years.

One of his 'lieutenants' was former professional footballer Ryan Jones, aged 22, from Walsall, whose career with Coventry City was wrecked by injury. He received nine years as did Zaman's cousin Imran, 23.

The gang members now face having to repay their ill-gotten gains. Proceeds of Crime proceedings will be launched against the jailed gang members.

Detective Inspector Simon Duffy, from Staffordshire Police's Serious Organised Crime Unit, said: "There is no hiding place for people who perpetrate this type of crime. They will be caught."

NEWS in brief

Multi-cultural jubilee festival

A MULTI-CULTURAL festival is being held in Walsall as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Walsall Housing Group has granted £5,000 of funding towards Caldmore Village Diamond Jubilee festival.

The event, in its third year, will take place from June 2 to 4 on the fields at Caldmore Community Primary School sports field, in Carless Street.

New classroom gets green light

A MOBILE classroom is to open at a special school in Walsall to create extra room.

Castle Special School in Odell Road, Bloxwich, lodged an application with Walsall Council for a new classroom and a car park extension.

It has now been approved. Head of planning David Elsworth said: "The building would be clad to ensure it blends in with the school."

Collage works put on display

A TOURING exhibition about the art medium of collage will visit Walsall's New Art Gallery.

The Persistence of Collage will feature work from more than 30 artists. It will open on May 4, running until June 30.

A publication priced £5 has been produced to accompany the exhibition.

Blood donors asked to help

NHS Blood and Transplant is appealing for volunteers to attend the blood donor session on Friday, April 13, at Aldridge Hall, Anchor Meadow-Middlemore Lane, Aldridge, to help meet the demand for blood from local hospitals.

Times are for sessions are at 1.30 to 3.30pm and 4.30- 7.30pm.

Author to visit

AUTHOR Martin Tracey will be visiting Aldridge Library next Thursday.

The author of Beneath the Floodlights will be at the library on April 12 between 2.30pm and 3.30pm.

Crossing closure

THE level crossing in Willenhall Lane, Bloxwich, is likely to remain closed until April 16 while work takes place on a £12 million railway signals scheme.

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OUR changing language. The sponsors of the Walking With the Wounded event announce that the walkers have set themselves the challenge "to successfully summit Mount Everest." Or, as we used to say, climb it.

□□□□□□□□

A READER reports hearing a spokesperson defending the rise in stamp prices to 60p on the grounds that "until a few months ago the Royal Mail had been cash-negative."

□□□□□□□□

SERIOUSLY, did you ever imagine you'd be rich enough to buy first-class stamps at 12 shillings each?

□□□□□□□□

WHILE in Suffolk we stayed at a fine old-fashioned pub, one of those rare hosteleries where they still welcome man's best friend. A huffy mother wanted to know why dogs were allowed in the bar but not children and was told that it was simply an old tradition. The honest answer, of course, is that dogs are clean, quiet, well behaved and everybody loves them. Kids, on the other hand...

□□□□□□□□

I REPORTED recently on the lad issued with a petrol-driven leaf blower in order that he could blow leaves up the street for the wind to blow them down the street. A similar infernal device was in use on the sea front at Southwold, being used in the equally pointless task of blowing sand off the prom while shattering the morning peace. Whatever happened to brooms?

□□□□□□□□

OR SINK plugs, for that matter. There was probably no more efficient, reliable and cheap device than the old rubber sink plug on a chain. Plugs did exactly what their name suggests. They plugged the plughole. Sadly, they are being replaced by those new-fangled chrome-plunger devices which neither keep the water in the sink when you want to fill it nor let the water out properly when you want to drain it. Let us turn the clocks back. The Campaign for Real Plugs begins (and very probably ends) here.

□□□□□□□□

ONE of the blights on our countryside is the array of roadside billboards mounted on trailers parked in fields close to our major roads. They are presumably legal and doubtless put a few quid in the back pockets of farmers while providing publicity for festival organisers and other advertisers. But what an eyesore they are. I was surprised to see one billboard, beside the A14 in Warwickshire, taken by a huge advert for the Royal Air Force Reserves and paid for by the Ministry of Defence - in other words by you and me. Our armed forces are supposed to defend this nation, not despoil it.

□□□□□□□□

A NEIGHBOUR brought us half-a-dozen tiny eggs, laid by her free-range bantams which have been grazing on the new spring grass. Wow. I had forgotten that eggs were actually supposed to taste of something. I could have eaten a dozen.

□□□□□□□□

ON SECOND thoughts, maybe not a dozen. Even tasty eggs are best digested in moderation. As any solicitor will tell you, eggs may not be legal but they are binding.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Black Country industrial link to the tragic Titanic

MAJOR parts of the tragic ocean liner were built in the West Midlands and now visitors to a museum can see first-hand the links the region has to the Titanic. Great Barr researcher Andrew Lound has crammed findings from 40 years of research into the display, which is taking place in Smethwick until April 29.

There are about 400 exhibits on show, including replica equipment used to weigh luggage made by Smethwick-based W&T Avery Ltd at its Soho Foundry in 1911.

There will be pictures of safes, made by Bilston-based Thomas Perry & Son plus a plate featuring the Thomas Perry & Company logo, like the ones that would have been fixed to the safes.

The safes would have been located on the sea deck and used to keep first-class passengers' valuables secure.

Door locks made by a number of small firms in Willenhall are also on display plus crystal light fittings from Brierley Hill Crystal.

Based

There will be information about Brierley Hill company Wellin-Lambie, which invented the 'davit' or crane used for lowering down lifeboats.

The company, which is now based in Old Bush Street, went on to supply QEII and Royal Yacht Britannia.

Curator Mr Lound, said the exhibition, which began in January, had been a "tremendous success".

He said: "What seems to be impressing people is the number of Birmingham and Black Country firms that were associated not only

The Titanic sank 100 years ago. DAVID LUMB reports on how museum visitors can see its links with industry in the West Midlands

with the Titanic but with ship building in general.

"The exhibition is, however, just getting into its stride as April is Titanic month."

"The Avery Historical Museum will be staging a number of special events to commemorate the Titanic and all its passengers and crew."

The exhibition is being held at Avery Weigh-Tronix's Soho Foundry, in Foundry Lane, Smethwick.

General manager Mike Scott added: "We are committed to preserving our company history. Avery have a number of direct links with the Titanic - former managing director William Edward Hopkins lost his life on board the ship and the company supplied the Titanic with a range of weighing equipment."

"Supporting this centenary exhibition seemed a natural extension of the work of our museum."

On April 7 and 8 the exhibition will be open from 10.30am with a special presentation at 2pm. To book show tickets and for all opening times call 0121 568 1667.



Exhibition curator Andrew Lound, from Great Barr, working on a sea floor exhibit



Avery scales which would have been in Titanic's mail room



A lampshade from Brierley Crystal



A safe plate from Thomas Perry & Son, Bilston



A whistle by Hudsons of Hockley



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Centre for reporting hate crime

VICTIMS of hate crime can turn to a housing association in Walsall for support after it was designated an official UK reporting centre.

Police have trained the Walsall Housing Group's community safety team to register and report hate crime, help victims and their families and collect statements and evidence for use in a criminal prosecution. The association joins a network of reporting centres, including councils, youth clubs, day centres and places of worship. It follows the Macpherson report - commissioned after the conviction of two men for the racist murder of Stephen Lawrence in London - which said hate crime needed to be made easier to report.

Linked

The network is linked to the websites of True Vision (Stop Hate Crime) and Stop Hate UK, of which Stephen's mother Doreen is a patron.

Annette Harpin, community safety team manager for the housing association, said: "By having reporting centres throughout the community, victims are more likely to report crime without having to visit a police station or having an office call at their house."

Call 0300 555 6666 for more information.

Ill-gotten gains doing good for a mini-bus bid

A SEA cadets group in Walsall has been given a cash boost thanks to local police redistributing money recovered from crooks.

Officers from the Blakenall neighbourhood police team have presented TS Vanguard sea cadets, based in Marlow Street, with a cheque for £750.

The group bid for funds from the proceeds of crime act, where police recover money and assets from criminals and then invest it back into the community.

Benefit

They aim to raise around £20,000 for a minibus to enable the group to attend events across the country.

Sgt Jim Nixon, from Bloxwich police station, said: "We are really pleased that this group have been able to benefit from the POCA fund."

He added: "We will continue to help and support the group in their fundraising attempts to raise the much-needed funds for their minibus."

New driver who injured boy on crossing jailed

A SPEEDING driver who had just passed his test when he mowed down a four-year-old child on a pedestrian crossing in Walsall has been jailed for 10 months.

Christopher Diponio made no obvious attempt to slow down before hitting Zane Bounaaja who was on his way home from school with his mother Sarah and eight-year-old sister Sophie, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Mrs Bounaaja put her hand up in a desperate attempt to make the silver Corsa stop as the little boy broke free from her grasp and ran towards the pavement, said prosecutor Miss Alka Brigue.

Zane landed on his head after being thrown into the air by the impact and suffered brain damage and a serious leg injury.

The car then crashed into a fence and wall in Darlaston Road before coming to a halt near the home of the 22-year-old motorist.

Eyewitness Daniel Adams told police: "It was in the middle of the road doing around 40 miles an hour in a 30 limit."

Swerved

Another witness said: "He did not brake but swerved before hitting the child."

The incident happened on September 8 at 3.40pm on a straight road. Shop worker

Diponio told police: "I looked down at the clock and when I looked up the boy just happened to be there and I tried to avoid him."

He claimed to be travelling at 37mph and said he had not been using the iPod or phone found in the car.

Mr Nayan Patel, defending, said: "He had only been driving for a few weeks after saving up to buy a car after passing his test. He saw the young boy at a very late stage. It was a genuine case of lack of experience. He knows he should have slowed down, is filled with remorse and wants to pass on his apologies to the family of the boy."

Diponio, of Darlaston Road, admitted dangerous driving and was banned from driving for five years.

Builder Samir Bounaaja, 37, and his 41-year-old wife Sarah, from Pleck, said of their son Zane, now five: "He was top of his class before this happened and now he struggles to even learn the alphabet. He was a normal confident youngster and is now more clingy and very wary of roads. We will not know the long term effects of the brain injury until he is a teenager."

Zane, a pupil at Rough Hay Primary School, spent two weeks in Birmingham Children's Hospital and was in a wheelchair for three months.

Phone mast action legal costs rising past £18,000

MORE THAN £18,000 has been spent on legal costs trying to pull down a 45ft phone mast which was installed in Walsall by phone companies without permission, it has emerged after a Freedom of Information request.

And the amount is set to rise with the battle to remove the mast, at the junction of Waverley Avenue and Beacon Road in Pheasey, heading towards the High Court.

Walsall Council said it had refused O2 and Vodafone planning permission for the mast and posted the decision on its website. Bosses said the decision was also sent to the mobile phone giants 11 days before the 56-day deadline.

But both firms say they did not receive it and the mast was installed after council officers

had agreed they had "deemed permission". Patti Lane, of Leighton Close, Great Barr, who made the Freedom of Information request to the council to find out how much had been spent on legal fees, said the "unsightly" mast could have been avoided altogether had the authority sent the rejection by registered post rather than second class.

But David Elsworth, Walsall Council's head of planning said even if the decision notice had been sent by recorded delivery the courts have not ruled it as proof.

Council chiefs will find out on May 10 if they can forge ahead with the High Court legal action. It comes after more than 350 signed a petition in support of the council's bid to remove the mast.

Taste of the world is to be served up

A MAJOR new £1.2 million buffet restaurant which has created 50 new jobs in Walsall will open this month.

Fiesta World Buffet and Bar is opening on Friday, April 13, at the town's former Chicago Rock Cafe, in Lichfield Street.

Owner Mandeep Singh Kohli said: "The response has been brilliant and we have already been inundated with phone calls and bookings."

"Walsall needs something like this and it means people don't have to travel to other towns."

More than 300 people applied for 50 jobs at the new restaurant.

It will seat a total of 300 diners and have 15 chefs.

The restaurant will serve up a global menu including Thai, Japanese, Chinese, Italian and Indian food.

The former Chicago Rock Cafe in Lichfield Street closed down in 2010.

Hospice book call

KEEN readers are being urged to support a hospice in Walsall by buying second hand books from its charity shops.

Staff from St Giles Walsall Hospice, in Goscoate Lane, have made the appeal for more books. Call 01543 481042.

Metal came home to make a mint at the art gallery

A HEAVY metal exhibition held at Walsall's New Art Gallery last summer helped pump £1 million into the local economy.

More than 36,000 people headed to a Home of Metal solo exhibition, which was on show between July and September and has also appeared at other venues around the region.

Now, thanks to new visitor data, gallery chiefs have been able to reveal the full economic impact of the exhibition.

Of the thousands who visited the Be True To Your Oblivion exhibition by Mark Titchner, 4,700 stayed in overnight accommodation, helping to pump in as much as £1 million.

Home of Metal celebrated of the rock music that has come out of the Black Country.

Pupils create forest school



Abbey Primary pupils Josh Adkins, Jessica Perry and Sam Mayfield get busy

AN OUTDOOR space complete with benches, bird boxes and a fire for roasting marshmallows is being created at a Bloxwich school.

Youngsters from nursery age up to Year 6 have all been pitching in to help create the 'forest school' at Abbey Primary, Glastonbury Crescent.

Every week since January, an artist and

an environmentalist have been visiting the school to help create the forest school. It is hoped the outdoor area will be completed just after Easter.

Deputy headteacher Mark Gilbert said the forest school was part of a national scheme and was being funded by nearby Bloxwich Children's Centre, which will also make use of it when complete.

NEWS in brief

Bright idea to live up street

BUSINESSES have rallied round to help live up a Walsall street with a brightly coloured mural.

Traders joined forces with Walsall Council to create the 100-foot long mural in George Street. Graffiti artists Kom Mef donated their time and businesses helped sponsor the materials.

Councillor Adrian Andrew said: "There's a lot of traffic along that street and we had a very long hoarding where Shannon's Mill used to be. Our town centre team worked with businesses to come up with an imaginative solution which everyone can enjoy."

Teachers win lesson prize

TWO teachers from a Darlaston school have won an award for best lessons.

Beth Ponsford and Dave Shakespeare, of Grace Academy Darlaston, have become latest winners of the O2 learn best lesson award.

They will receive £2,000 for themselves and the school in Herberts Park Road. It comes after a video lesson by the pair was posted on a video sharing website.

Bunting plea on the jubilee

VOLUNTEERS are urged to help with bunting-making efforts in Walsall to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee this year.

Crafts groups are also being sought to help sew the bunting lengths together as preparations get under way for the Queen's 60th anniversary celebrations.

Any willing helpers, are asked to contact Olivia Clymer on (01922) 655832.

Crafty comedy

AN AFTERNOON comedy show with craft stalls will be held in Aldridge.

The Comedy with Craft event will be held at Aldridge Youth Theatre, Noddy Park Road, on April 15 from 2.30pm. Tickets cost £8 on (01922) 456742.

Charity dancers

A LINE dancing fundraiser raised £630 for the Walsall Breast Cancer Care Group.

The Lazy J Line Dance club held the event at Church Road, Pelsall, on March 5.

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Brothers are locked up for attack outside pub

TWO men have been locked up for 15 months each after a fight outside a Walsall pub which left the victim with cuts from broken glass.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that brothers Daniel and Nathan Stokes repeatedly punched their victim during the attack at The Red Cow pub in Walsall on April 16.

The victim was punched to the floor and suffered three cuts.

Daniel, aged 18 of Grove Crescent, Pelsall, and Nathan, 21, of Charles Crescent, Pelsall, pleaded guilty to wounding.

Comment

Prosecuting Mrs Alka Brigue said the victim had been drinking outside in the smoking area when Daniel Stokes walked past. A comment was made by someone else but an altercation began between Stokes and the victim.

Defending Daniel Stokes, Mr Gurdeep Garcha said: "There has been a change in his attitude and this case and these proceedings have had the desired effect."

Mr Pat Currie for Nathan Stokes said his client had intended to stop the fight but had got involved in what was going on.

Recorder Geoffrey Kelly told them: "This was a sustained attack at which you could have stopped at any moment."

New morris dance for traditional town walk

A CENTURIES-OLD tradition will be upheld in Walsall later this month when the ancient Walking the Fair event takes place.

Morris dancers will perform a specially created Sister Dore dance when the event takes place on Friday, April 13.

Walking the Fair dates back to 1662 and originally took place before the town's annual fairs or markets, granted to the borough in its charter by King Charles I.

Traditionally, the walk symbolised the vital role played by the market.

Mayor of Walsall Councillor Garry Perry and Mrs June Perry will walk from the Crossing at St Paul's in Darwall Street to the Victorian Arcade on Bradford Street, on to the market on Park Street and back to the Square at St Paul's.

Walkers can gather from 10.30am at The Crossing.

New maternity 'hotel'



Matron Lin Gostling, hospital chief executive Richard Kirby and head of nursing and midwifery Karen Palmer

A MATERNITY centre where up to 1,000 women a year will give birth has been officially opened in Walsall.

The Homer Building in Charles Street, Walsall, has been transformed into a birthing unit to ease growing pressure on the Manor Hospital, which is having to accommodate more births.

Bosses said the midwife-led unit was looking forward to welcoming its first new arrival.

The unit, which opened to the public on Monday, aims to provide a relaxed environment for low risk pregnant women and their families, and includes three birthing suites with double beds, en-suite bathrooms and birthing pools.

There is also a kitchen and lounge area, with music and TV, and a reflexology service will also be provided.

The unit will provide a 24-hour service, seven days a week and will be available for any women who has had a straightforward pregnancy and is at least 37 weeks pregnant.

Spa

Mayor of Walsall Councillor Garry Perry, who officially opened the new unit on Friday, said: "I'm certain it's going to be a very popular choice for mums-to-be. It doesn't feel clinical whatsoever. Each room feels very much like a hotel. It's amazing."

Karen Palmer, head of midwifery at the trust, welcomed the unit, saying it offered "state-of-the-art" facilities. Caroline Stewart, manager of the unit, added: "We want mums to feel like they are in a relaxed spa."

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thechronicle

Residents whoop with delight over lorry route

Eggs-tra special judge



Mayor of Walsall Garry Perry helps judge the St Michael's Easter egg competition at Pelsall with the Rev Alison Morris and pupils Holly Wornell, aged seven, and George Simmons, six

PUPILS at a school in Walsall put their own twist on designing Easter eggs for an annual competition.

Pupils at St Michael's Primary School in Maple Road, Pelsall, decorated hard-boiled eggs and used them as part of handcrafted scenes, with themes ranging from the

London Olympics to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The competition was judged by Walsall Mayor Councillor Garry Perry and the Rev Alison Morris from St Michael's Church.

Prizes of Easter eggs were handed to winners from each class.

PLANS for a new access way to a quarry in Aldridge have been granted permission to the delight of householders living on the current route.

Residents living in Branton Hill Lane and Little Aston Road whooped and cheered in Walsall Council chamber last week when the decision was made to allow applicant Bliss Sand and Gravel Company Ltd build the access route off Chester Road.

The decision brings a campaign spanning three decades to a conclusion.

The campaigners said they had been enduring the noise and potential danger of hundreds of lorries passing their homes every week for years, and wholeheartedly welcomed the move for an access route off Chester Road, to rid them of the problem.

The proposal includes the relocation of the recycling plant closer to the access road.

Pointing out that lorries currently pass within 20 feet of front doors, Andy Morris told the meeting: "If the road is built no one will be walking along the road and being showered with grit and mud and no one will have to risk life and limb to visit the homes of neighbours"

Diverted

Fed-up residents have been campaigning for 30 years for lorries to be diverted away from their homes.

But residents in Cottage Mews, off Chester Road, objected to the plans. They say the access road would be mean lorries would instead be passing near their homes. They did not feel they had been considered and feared the route would damage nearby sites of archaeological importance, a concern also raised by English Heritage.

But councillors said their homes were about 450ft from the new route, as opposed to the current 20ft for other residents, and approved the plans on Thursday (March 29). The scheme attracted 16 letters of support but more than double that number in objections.

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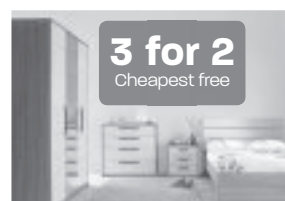
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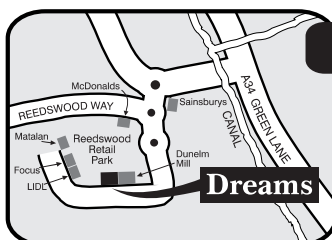
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thechronicle

Hard-up families get help to stay in homes

Timely idea for trade fair



Young entrepreneurs, back, from left, Joseph Powell, aged 18, Joe Symonds, 17, Brooke Lawson, 16, Jordan York 17, and front, company managing director, Adam Phillips, who is aged 16

BUSINESS students in Walsall headed to Switzerland to promote their innovative retro clock design.

The team from the Black Country University Technology College were part of the Zurich International Trade Fair. The seven students were one of only four groups across the country to be selected to attend and

will be promoting retro clocks they created under their company name Retrosentials.

The clocks are made out of vinyl records using laser cutting technology invented as part of a Young Enterprise Company competition to test the abilities of budding entrepreneurs from across Year 12.

TWENTY-NINE families in Walsall have been given a helping hand to keep a roof over their heads thanks to a mortgage rescue scheme.

It offers help to homeowners to stay in their own homes when their housing is at risk of repossession.

The scheme was launched in 2008 and sees the council's housing support service working in partnership with Walsall Citizen's Advice Bureau and housing agencies.

Walsall gets a share of national funding of £86 million.

Anguish

The Mortgage Rescue Scheme is accompanied by the Court Desk, which has helped hundreds of people attending Walsall County Court to get free legal advice and assistance on debt and money issues.

Regeneration chief Councillor Adrian Andrew said: "The anguish that money worries cause families can never be underestimated. The risk of losing the family home is a burden that people do not have to bear alone as there is help available for them."

People who need more information about getting help from the scheme should call the advice line on (01922) 653405.

Two house plan

TWO houses will be built in an upmarket Walsall neighbourhood under plans lodged with the council.

The homes are to be constructed off Middleton Road in Streetly, with parking and private garden space.

Developer Edenwood Ltd has applied to the council for planning permission for the scheme on land at 45 Middleton Road with access to the two-storey family homes via Manor Road.

Otto de Weijer, representing Edenwood Ltd, said the scheme would make "a positive contribution to the street scene".

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The experienced sales staff are also able to offer packages to suit all ages and styles of home, and offer quality products at affordable prices, as well as manufacture bespoke fireplaces to the correct size for each customer if required. In addition to this we will be carrying out one of our biggest sales yet! on Good Friday 6th, Saturday 7th and Monday 9th April where we will be offering some amazing deals, "we feel Easter is an opportunity for families to get out" states Dan "and with this in mind we wanted to offer our customers something special and decided for this weekend only to offer 50% off any fire when purchased with

one of our quality suites".

Staff will visit each home if required to ensure the correct specification of fireplace is fitted. "The choice of fires and fireplaces is a very personal one, so with us visiting each customer's home personally we can offer advice as to which ones would look the best"

"In the past we have celebrated our anniversary with different offers" adds Matt. "However this is our best yet 50% is a massive saving" We also offer a fitting service which is carried out by our carefully vetted Gas Safe engineers giving you the confidence that your fire and surround will be fitted to a high standard. I don't believe anyone else in the area are currently offering such an amazing deal this Easter.

With all this in mind it has never been a better time to purchase your new fireplace from us with the added incentive of 50% off your gas or electric fire when purchased with any suite.

This is an offer not to be missed and will start Good Friday 6th April 10am - 4:30pm, Saturday 7th April 10am - 4:30pm Sunday 8th April Closed and reopen Monday 9th April 2012 10am - 3pm for 3 days only!!

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Celebration marks launch of Myplace youth centre



Celebrating the Myplace launch at Delves are Councillor Rachel Andrew, pupil Akeem Whyte and council leader Councillor Mike Bird

YOUNGSTERS in Walsall joined civic leaders to launch the borough's brand new £1.3 million Myplace young people's centre.

The new facility will officially open in May but a special celebration was held to unveil a plaque.

The centre has been built on land adjoining the Joseph Leckie Academy in Walstead Road, Delves.

Walsall Council secured funding from the Department for Education to fund the centre. It will open seven days a week and will offer a range of activities.

Base

Council leader Mike Bird said it was a great honour to see the hub being launched, adding: "I have no doubt that this will prove to be a great place for young people to meet, learn and get valuable information and guidance on a wide range of topics."

Education chief Councillor Rachel Andrew said: "This will be a world class facility which will have a positive impact on many young lives, now and in the future."

"Young people have been at the heart of this project from the very beginning and they have a real stake in making the centre a success."

Myplace will become a main base for the delivery of Integrated Young People's Support Services across Walsall.

There are also plans for it to be used as a base for other partner organisations and agencies including police, health, fire, libraries and community organisations.

Gym to open round the clock

THE opening of a new branch of Pure Gym in Walsall will cater for fitness fanatics at all times of the day and night, bosses say.

The 14,000 sq ft round-the-clock centre will launch on the top floor of the Poundland store building in

Park Street on June 19. It will be open for 24 hours, daily, and is expected to create 30 jobs this summer.

The site was previously occupied by Woolworths and TJ Hughes stores, which both closed down.

Hot cross fun day

A COMMUNITY centre in Walsall is hosting Easter activities for youngsters.

The Great Hot Cross Bun Hunt will take place at St Matthew's Centre, in St Matthew's Close, today (Thursday) between 10am and 1pm. The event is for children aged between five and 11.

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thechronicle

New nurse service for dementia

THE ROYAL British Legion is launching its own nursing service to support members of the Armed Forces community with dementia.

The RBL is beginning the scheme by recruiting three of the new Admiral Nurses in Wolverhampton, Dudley and Walsall. The service will be officially launched soon in the West Midlands before being rolled out across the country later in the year.

by Elizabeth Joyce

Laura Morton, RBL head of care services, said they wanted to do all they could to help members of the "Armed Forces family".

The new Admiral Nurse Service will support the carers of those with dementia. They will earn between £30,000 and £45,000.

The service will include providing information, support and practical help to relieve issues such as stress and depression.

Ms Morton said: "Dementia has been identified as the next health timebomb with the number of sufferers worldwide set to double in the next eight years.

"Studies have shown that caring for a person with

dementia can be very demanding and carers are more likely to experience physical and mental stress.

"One of the best ways to improve the quality of life for people with dementia is to support those who care for them."

The RBL is seeking to recruit registered mental health nurses with experience in dementia care. It is working with Dementia UK on the project.

To qualify for the Admiral Nurse Service in Wolverhampton, either the person with dementia or the carer needs to be a beneficiary of the Legion.

Call 08457 725725 for further details.

Music as therapy



Bill Cummings and Gerry Mahoney visit Walsall Manor hospital to entertain heart patients

MUSIC filled the wards of Walsall Manor Hospital as patients enjoyed a visit from a band as part of their therapy.

Guitarist Gerry Mahoney and singer and percussionist Bill Cummings, who are members of The Gerry Mahoney Band, visited the Pleck Road hospital.

The pair toured six wards playing Irish, folk, gospel, jazz and country songs to patients with heart problems.

Mr Mahoney, aged 59, of Butts Road, said: "We were invited in by the hospital. We were there about an hour and a half and the enthusiasm from the patients was fantastic.

"We went around half a dozen wards playing all kinds of songs. It was a therapeutic exercise. They wanted us to come back but the hospital wants other musicians to go in as well."

Yobs spark patrols

POLICE are carrying out high visibility patrols in Little Cross Street, Darlaston, following reports of youths being noisy and smoking drugs.

Officers say any offenders will be dealt with robustly and details will be shared with partner agencies.

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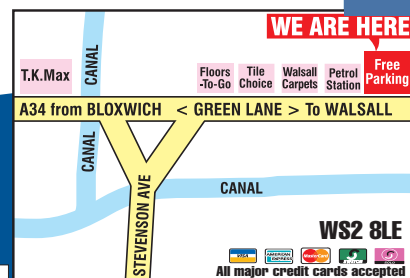
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Meeting on measures to tackle metal thefts

WALSALL councillors were meeting yesterday (Wednesday) to consider further moves to crack down on metal thieves.

Councillors were discussing the possibility of getting legal powers to deal with the plague of thefts that has hit the borough hard since the price of metals soared.

Council chiefs were considering ploughing ahead with plans to push for a new by-law that would allow the council to introduce a licensing system for scrap metal collectors.

It is believed it would be the first of its kind in the country.

Council leader Mike Bird said: "What we would be looking at is licensing metal collectors. One of things we could look at is putting a plate on the front of the vehicle, similar to private hire vehicles. We may also look at how we could incorporate that with an MOT so that we know that a vehicle is roadworthy."

Councillor Bird said the time had definitely come to take action as theft of metal to poses "a serious problem to the people of Walsall."

He added: "We've had lead stolen from the Barr Beacon war memorial, we've had drain covers pinched and metal stolen from lots of other places. Enough is enough. A by-law is something that we may look at but we are determined to press ahead and look at how we can tackle the problem," he added.

Calls have been growing for a cashless system to be introduced for the scrap metal industry with an online petition set up by Walsall Council worker Donovan Bailey attracting more than 57,000 names. That would end cash payments for scrap.

Chance to build a den

FAMILIES can try their hand at building dens at Rough Wood Local Nature Reserve in Willenhall on Thursday, April 12, in a free event. Call 0845 111 2900 for details.

Twenty years of memories



Celebrating 20 years of delving into the past – Aldridge Local History Society Chairman Andrew Wood (left) and president John Sale

HISTORIANS took a step back back in time as part of celebrations to mark their 20th anniversary.

Aldridge Local History Society, which has 140 members, celebrated two decades with an event showcasing some of their areas of interest.

More than 200 people attended at Aldridge Methodist Church, in Anchor Road, for the anniversary event. On display were images illustrating transport and industry of

local significance. The Aldridge town crier also took part in the celebrations.

Chairman of the society, Andrew Wood, aged 58, who has been involved in the society for 20 years, said: "The society is also very much a social group. It's an important part of the community."

The group meets on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm. For details visit www.aldrigelhs.co.uk

Norovirus - please read

Important information on how to stop the spread of winter bugs in our community.

Before you visit your friend or relative in a hospital or care home setting please make sure you have done everything to prevent the spread of germs.

If you think you have a winter bug please:

- Stay at home until you have had two days without symptoms (feeling sick, being sick and/or diarrhoea)
- Wash your hands after using the toilet
- Keep your house clean especially the toilet, flush handles, taps and door handles - these can be cleaned with a bleach based product
- Don't prepare food for other people

If you have symptoms you can normally manage the symptoms yourself

- The symptoms usually last 1-2 days
- Keep drinking fluids - rehydration powder/drinks can be obtained from the pharmacist (ask a friend to get them for you)
- Antibiotics **will not** help
- If symptoms are severe speak to your pharmacist, NHS Direct or GP by phone for advice on managing your symptoms

Avoid catching germs by washing your hands with warm running water and soap or liquid soap before eating and after going to the toilet.

Please see guidance on how to wash your hands well.

Handwashing Technique

Wash hands using the following eight steps.

1.

Wet hands under running water. Take a measure of soap.



2.

Work into hands, palm to palm.



3.

Right hand over back of left and vice versa.



4.

Rub palm to palm, fingers interlaced.



5.

Back of left fingers to right palms. fingers interlocked and vice versa.



6.

Rotational rubbing of right thumb clasped in left hand and vice versa.



7.

Rub left palm with clasped fingers of right hand and vice versa.



8.

Left wrist with right hand and vice versa.



Rinse hands under running water and dry thoroughly

Handwashing is the most important way to stop the spread of germs

Singing postman hopes to deliver at talent final



Singing Walsall postman Nathan Farrell serenades his colleagues at Walsall Royal Mail Delivery Office in Darwall Street, Walsall

A SINGING postman from Bloxwich may finally realise his dream after making it through to the regional finals of a nationwide variety competition.

Nathan Farrell, 26, has been entering singing competitions such as the X factor and Britain's Got Talent for the last five years.

He has finally found success with 'Britain does Variety' and will be performing at Birmingham's final on April 14.

Nathan, who has been a postman for eight years, said: "Who knows, I could finally live out my dream and become a professional singer, something I love and enjoy."

"I'm called the singing postman on my post round because all I do is sing. Whether it's raining, snowing or sunshine, I will walk around with a smile on my face."

Not only has Nathan had competition success this year, but he has also signed his first recording contract with Downtown Artists after beating 300 other applicants.

Nathan's colleagues and customers are all very supportive, with many of them buying his CDs to fund his travel expenses to London.

With his partner and his one-year-old son Connor, Nathan says he finds it difficult to juggle his busy life but with

another baby on the way in June, he is grateful that his hard work may soon be paying off.

Nathan added: "There are not enough hours in the day, but I cope and manage."

"Since finding out I was through to the regional finals, I've been practising very hard indeed, but most of all, advertising my voice and sharing it with everyone I know."

The regional final winners will compete in the London Grand Final on June 23 with the show being broadcast on Sky's Showcase TV.

The winner will receive a cash prize, the chance to perform at the O2 Arena and a showcase with Epic Creative, the UK's largest booker of cruise ship entertainment.

Dinner dance to help festival

ORGANISERS of this year's Caldmore Village Festival have arranged a special dinner dance to raise funds for the summer event.

Taste of Caldmore will take place on April 19 at the Five Rivers A La Carte restaurant, in Vicarage Place, to help boost the festival's coffers. It will feature live music. Tickets cost £25 per head while tables of 12 can be booked for £300.

thechronicle

Facelift for the Council House

THE FIRST phase of £1 million improvements of Walsall Council House and town hall is forging ahead, with work due to finish in May.

The project to transform the historic Grade II listed building includes the reception area being remodelled. The mosaic floor and historic stonework on the outside of the Lichfield Street building are also undergoing work.

It forms part of an investment of more than £330,000 during the next 12 months.

Sandstone

A further £700,000 will be spent in the 2013 to 2014 financial year to upgrade the building.

Council chiefs have vowed to improve the borough's iconic sites.

Walsall Central Library had a major facelift two years ago. The sandstone facade was rebuilt as part of a £200,000 scheme after surveys revealed it was disintegrating.

Patriotic display

PHOTOGRAPHS, souvenirs and memorabilia from royal occasions are on display at Walsall Museum in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Souvenir mugs and newspaper clippings from the Queen's Coronation and Silver Jubilee are on show at the Lichfield Street venue until April 14.

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thechronicle

Night crime in town is falling

NIGHT-TIME crime in Walsall town centre is falling. Figures for the last 12 months show 50 fewer victims of crime – a 12.7 per cent reduction.

A total of 343 crimes were recorded between March 2011 and 2012 compared to 393 the year before.

It follows a crackdown over the past few years where police have teamed up with Walsall Council, NHS Walsall and other organisations.

Operation Be Safe is still running in the town centre at weekends and has been credited as playing a major part in reducing crime in the town centre.

Patrols have been stepped up on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights in a bid to stop any violent or anti-social behaviour.

Street pastors have also been out on the streets as part of the operation and have become a regular sight at the weekend.

Supt Keith Fraser, head of policing for Walsall, said: "The tactics deployed by police and partners proves they work in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour."

Safe

"It is important that people feel safe when coming into Walsall and we will continue to use these measures to ensure Walsall remains a safe place to visit, work and live."

Jon Burnett, regeneration officer for Walsall town centre, added: "Walsall has a vibrant night life and we and we want people to enjoy the night-time economy in the town centre at the weekends but it's imperative that they feel safe while enjoying themselves."

Last week it was revealed crime in the West Midlands is at its lowest level in a decade.

Statistics showed there have been 20,000 fewer victims of crime compared to last year.

Crash victim

A PENSIONER from Streetly has died in hospital following a car crash in Lichfield.

Maurice Meers, aged 82, of Chester Road, was driving a Range Rover which was involved in a collision in Blake Street, Little Aston, on March 17.

Fond farewell to popular teacher



Goodybye Miss – Marilyn Boughton-Parker with pupils Isabelle Fenwick and (right) Emily Jones

A LONG-SERVING teacher and deputy headteacher in Walsall is retiring after more than 30 years.

Marilyn Boughton-Parker has spent the last 11 years at Millfields Nursery in Bloxwich. She has been deputy headteacher for over a decade but acting headteacher since September in a career which has included three other schools.

The 60 year-old started at Wednesbury Oak in Tipton and has also worked at Bentley West Primary and the old Allens Rough in Willenhall.

Despite retirement Mrs Boughton-Parker has agreed to return as a supply teacher.

Daughters

Her daughters Sally and Lucy have followed her example and now teach at Yew Tree Primary.

Staff put on a surprise lunch with former colleagues and friends for Mrs Boughton-Parker on her last day in charge.

She said: "I am at retirement age and would like to find time for new things although I am not sure what yet. I will miss everyone, the children keep you young and the staff have been so fabulous they are very supportive."

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Giant warehouse ready to be filled



Room for a growing firm – chief executive David Gawthorpe in the extensive new unit at Castings PLC, Brownhills
THE £5 million expansion of a manufacturing firm that is poised to create 145 jobs is now complete with the opening of a giant new warehouse.

The opening of the unit at Castings PLC in Brownhills marks the beginning of a new era for the 150-year-old company that makes iron castings for the truck and automotive industries.

Chief executive David Gawthorpe said: "We are pleased

with how it's all gone and we've already started occupying the building. It's a long term investment which will allow us to expand in the future."

The firm had a 12-month temporary lease on another warehouse in Walsall which came to an end. The new warehouse is next to the firm's factory in Lichfield Road.

"We will now have everything on the same site," Mr Gawthorpe added.

Clogged streets worry

BOSSES at Walsall Housing Group say they have taken steps to make sure sufficient parking spaces are available for staff and visitors to its new headquarters.

Fed-up residents living in The Butts say the number of cars clogging up the streets is getting "worse by the day" since the offices opened last month.

Some have welcomed proposals to introduce double yellow line, while others have raised concerns.

by Catherine Dalton

Robert Howard, aged 66, a retired production manager, of Cecil Street, said: "It is getting worse by the day. At one time you could go out at any time of day, come back at any time and the space you left would still be free."

Concerned

Butcher Ashley Hill, 26, who works at family business WT Hill in Butts Road, said he was concerned roads would start getting clogged with cars.

"People don't want to pay for parking, especially if there is somewhere 300 or 400 yards away to park for free," he said. "It does need sorting out."

Walsall Housing Group's £6.5 million headquarters on the corner of Littleton Street East and Hatherton Street opened to the public in March.

Spokeswoman Lyndsey Maddocks said: "We have ensured that we have made sufficient car parking provision for colleagues by leasing more than 150 further spaces in nearby Ward Street and Freer Street car parks."

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CLUB NEWS

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Screening of classic Sykes film

ALDRIDGE TOWNSWOMEN

THE Annual General Meeting was opened by Margaret Key who announced a very successful year once again.

Social Events are still going strong; the Luncheon Group had 19 Guild members enjoying their lunch at St Matthews Hall, Walsall, the Ramble Group will take a walk to either the Bluebell Woods or Walsall Arboretum.

Trips to the Hereford countryside, Cotswolds towns and villages and The Black Country Living Museum are all selling well.

A most enjoyable afternoon outing to the Organ Chase Cinema, Cannock saw members singing old favourites being played on a Compton organ with chocolate ices being served.

The film 'The Plank' was shown with Eric Sykes and many more well known actors of the day, some not with us any more, finishing the afternoon with sandwiches, tea, trifle and cakes.

Members also enjoyed an evening competing in the federation quiz last week.

Aldridge Townswomen's Guild meet on fourth Monday of the month at Aldridge Community Centre at 2pm.

Speaker for the next meeting on April 23, will be Mr Lowe 'Storyteller' and members are asked to bring in their favourite book.

For further information ring Jan Sim 01922 455150.

School's hat-trick as Tom wins prize



Winner Tom Cadwallader with Soroptimist International Midland Arden Region President Ruth Longville.
Picture by Seven Star Photography

KIDDERMINSTER & DISTRICT SOROPTIMISTS

TOM Cadwallader, from King Charles I High School in Kidderminster, won the Soroptimist International Midland Arden regional 10th public speaking Competition.

He beat 14 other contestants from Midlands schools, speaking on the topic 'Do We Have a Fair Taxation System?'

His prize was £150 with a trophy to be displayed at King Charles I School for a year.

Tom is the third student from King Charles I High School to have won the competition.

The competition is open to students aged 14-18 years who are sponsored by other Soroptimist Clubs in a wide area of the Midlands.

For more information about the activities of Kidderminster Soroptimists email on kidderminstersorop@gmail.com or look at the website link at www.sigbi.org

Mary is honorary president

PAT Wilkins was voted as new chairman and Jean Jones is to be vice-chairman on the new committee.

Mary Arrowsmith was delighted to be chosen as honorary president and was presented with her badge of office from Wendy Brown, the previous incumbent.

Guild members enjoyed a

WEDNESBURY TOWNSWOMEN

visit from Karen Owen, a representative of The Body Shop at Home.

The craft section is again knitting blankets for the Addis Ababa Fistular Hospital. A large party enjoyed a

visit to the Grand Theatre to see Birds of a Feather. Several outings, including further theatre trips are planned.

The guild had a stall at the Agewell spring fair, held at the Old Post Office and raised more than £70.

The next meeting will be at 7.15pm on April 12.

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Owner admits dog that bit girl was out of control

Lecturers' run challenge



Walsall-based Wolverhampton university lecturers, Tracey Devonport and Gerald Griggs are taking part in the 10km Wolf run for charity

FOUR university lecturers will be tackling a 10km race to help raise money for charity.

Tracey Devonport, Gavin Ward, Kath Leflay and Gerald Griggs, all based at the Walsall campus of Wolverhampton University, will be taking part in the Wolf Run on Saturday, April 7, at Leamington Spa in

aid of the Beacon Centre for the Blind in Wolverhampton.

The race is dubbed a "hardcore" 10k across raw natural terrain and consists of three kinds of off-road running, mud runs, trail runs and obstacle runs. To sponsor the team visit: www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/Wolfpack4

THE OWNER of a dog who bit a five-year-old girl in Walsall has admitted his pet was out of control.

Dean Kingdon, aged 29, let his American bull mastiff off the lead when he was walking out of flats in Walsall.

The dog, named Sugar, pounced on a young girl and bit her, Walsall Magistrates Court heard last week.

The girl, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, was bitten by the dog on July 9 last year.

Mr Jason Corden-Bowen, prosecuting, said: "The girl's mother was locking the door and sees a dog in the stairwell. It comes up to her daughter and barks. It jumps up at her and causes her to fall over."

Screaming

"The dog gets over her while she is on the floor and she is very scared and is screaming."

Kingdon called the dog and led it away.

Kingdon, of Wednesbury Road, Calmore, admitted allowing a dog to be dangerously out of control in a public place and also failing to surrender to police bail on December 4.

Mr David Grice, defending, said: "A police officer says he regularly sees the dog on a lead and it is friendly and amiable."

The case was adjourned until April 26 for a pre-sentence report and for the dog to be assessed.

War medals stolen

WAR medals awarded for services in Afghanistan and Iraq were stolen during a burglary in Bloxwich.

Raiders broke into the New Street house overnight between March 9 and 10, stealing the medals as well as electrical items and cash.

Detective Constable Andy Bellingham, of Walsall CID, said: "The medals were of a deep sentimental value."

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Task group look at bid to create history centre

A MULTI-million pound museum and history complex in the heart of Walsall is pushing ahead, with a task group formed to guide the ambitious plans.

Moves to bring Walsall Museum and the Local History Centre under one roof have been under discussion for a number of years. It recently emerged that Walsall Council chiefs are looking at moving them together with the leather museum in Littleton Street West. Other sites in the town are still being considered before a final location is selected.

A bid could be made for Lottery money to help fund the project with other cash coming from the council.

Sue Grainger, head of libraries, heritage and arts at the council, said: "A project board has been formed and we are currently assessing space requirements against potential sites."

Archives

"We are planning to involve both the National Archives and the Arts Council, who are now the national lead for museums, to ensure that any design meets the requirements for the display, exhibition and storage of archival and museum materials and offers a fantastic customer experience."

There have been long standing calls to keep all archives together in the heart of the borough as the Local History Centre is currently based in Essex Street. It was closed on Fridays as well as Mondays last year because of cuts.

The museum is currently situated above Walsall Central Library, in Lichfield Street, in the town centre.

Dawn service

CHRISTIANS in Walsall will celebrate at a sunrise service at Barr Beacon on Easter Sunday.

They will meet at 6.15am at the nature reserve, in Beacon Road, near Aldridge, for the annual event organised by members of the Central Hall Methodist Church.

Pitch in to clear site



Jak Bailey, aged 16, and coach Dave Cox with members of Bloxwich Rugby Football Club clearing the way for a new training pitch

VOLUNTEERS are helping to clear overgrown tennis courts in Bloxwich to bring the site back to use for sportsmen and women.

The area at Bloxwich Stafford Road Sports Club is being revamped to make way a variety of sports facilities, including a training pitch for Bloxwich Rugby Club

The sports club is used by 250 people a week, from hockey and

football to bowls and table tennis. Members of Bloxwich Rugby Club are taking the lead on the project which has been made possible with a £1,000 grant from Sport Relief.

James Rudge, chairman of Bloxwich RFC, said: "The site has been dug up and now there's a lot of clearance work to do."

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Jobs boost as haulage firm gets go-ahead for expansion

THE £5 MILLION expansion of Willenhall logistics firm Aspray24, creating up to 30 jobs has been given the go-ahead, despite objections from nearby residents.

A petition with 30 names was submitted to Walsall Council over plans to create a new 100,000 sq ft base for the haulage company.

The company, which has its headquarters in Noose Lane, has bought the former site of historic manufacturing plant George Carter Pressings Ltd in Park Road.

Three letters and a 31-name petition had been lodged voicing concerns over the plan.

Issues raised include fears over noise, requests that the land should be used for housing and fears for the potential impact on the value of neighbouring properties.

Investing

Despite the objections, none came to the planning meeting at Walsall Council last week to speak on behalf of the objectors. Councillors approved the application.

Leader of the council Mike Bird, vice-chair of the planning meeting, said afterwards: "It's fantastic news."

"It shows people are investing in Walsall, and whilst we do get a lot of negative publicity about the retail sector, people are still

prepared to invest in the borough.

"I want to say thank you to the company for looking at Walsall and creating jobs, and kick-starting the economy in the local area, to enable people to have a future."

Aspray24 was founded in 1982 and its headquarters have been in Noose Lane since 1992 from where it runs a fleet of around 400 vehicles.

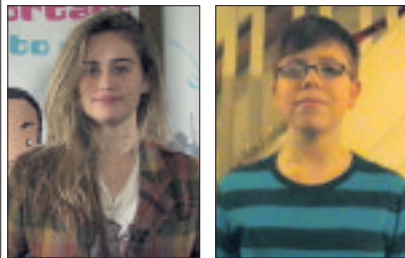
The expansion plans were revealed as the family-run firm prepares to celebrate its 30th anniversary.

Bosses at the company have said the newly-acquired five-and-a-half acre former George Carter Pressings site will not only secure the future of the business in Willenhall but it is vital to expansion plans.

The former George Carter Pressings site has been empty since May 2009 when it closed down after 179 years of business, with the loss of 79 jobs.

thechronicle

Thousands vote in members of youth parliament



MYP Daniella Hill

MYP Thomas Evans

THOUSANDS of young people in Walsall have voted in new members of the United Kingdom Youth Parliament to represent the borough. About 13,000 young people cast their votes in schools, colleges and online.

The new members of Youth Parliament for Walsall are Daniella Hill, aged 15, of St Francis of Assisi School, and Thomas Evans, 12, from Barr Beacon School.

Their deputies are Zak Hems, 16, from Grace Academy and Robert Millward, 13, of Pool Hayes School.

Ceremony

Their names were revealed at an Oscars-style ceremony at Walsall Town Hall attended by around 200 people.

Daniella said: "Thanks to everyone, I hope we all work together to make a difference." Thomas added: "Thank you for anyone who voted. It's such an amazing opportunity and I hope I can live it to the full."

Assistant director for children's services Louise Hughes said: "Competition this year was tough with 15 young people vying for the four available places. All of the candidates did some fantastic work and it's just unfortunate that there are only a limited number of seats available."

The elected four will go on to represent Walsall at local, regional and national level.

Mayoress hosts tea party

THE Mayoress of Walsall is hosting an Easter tea party on Saturday.

Mrs June Perry is inviting residents of all ages to the Mayor's Parlour from 2 to 4pm on April 7 and is asking them to wear their Easter bonnets.



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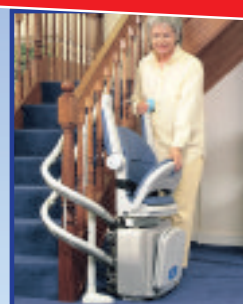
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Nearby Bridgnorth is the northern terminus of the **Severn Valley Railway** which steams along the beautiful valley via Bewdley to Kidderminster and includes the Engine House education centre at Highley.

In this area, **Buildwas Abbey** ruins and **Dudmaston Hall** grounds make great picnic spots. Near Craven Arms are picturesque medieval manor

house **Stokesay Castle**, the **Secret Hills Discovery Centre** with its replica Shropshire mammoth and **Acton Scott** historic working farm, where Victorian Farm was filmed.

Ironbridge is named after one of the marvels of the early industrial age, which spans the Severn, and the gorge is the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution that transformed the world. There are ten museums in the gorge, available via individual ticket or by a 12-month passport for all of them. The biggest is **Blists Hill Victorian Town**, which takes visitors back to the 19th Century.

Manor

Industry later moved to the Black Country and Birmingham where the **Black Country Living Museum** in Dudley gives visitors a taste of that sooty, chain-hammering, hard-working past.

The proud history of Walsall's leather trade can be discovered at **Walsall Leather Museum** in Littleton Street West. Based in an original Victorian factory building the museum celebrates the town's 200 year leather making history. Alongside a permanent exhibition, which is free, the museum runs an events and activities programme for adults and children, when some charges may apply.



More than 70 historic aircraft to see at the Royal Air Force Museum at Cosford, plus a flight simulator

The **Back To Backs** in Birmingham city centre show how the workers lived, whilst the palatial ruins of **Witley Court**, near Stourport, hint at the opulence enjoyed by industrialists such as the Earl of Dudley. The Manders made **Wightwick Manor**, Wolverhampton, into a celebration of the 19th Century arts and crafts movement.

Soho House in Handsworth was the elegant home of Birmingham industrialist Matthew Boulton and nearby the **Museum of the Jewellery Quarter** in Hockley is a time capsule for one of the city's great trades.

Another city landmark, **Aston Hall**, played a role in one of the country's defining

conflicts, the English Civil War, as did **Boscobel House** and **Moseley Old Hall**, both near Wolverhampton. The religious persecutions leading up to that 17th Century conflict are reflected in the 'priest hole' hideaways at **Harvington Hall**, near Kidderminster, and at moated **Baddesley Clinton**, near Solihull, both Elizabethan treasures.

Conflicts of a recent era are remembered at the **Royal Air Force Museum** at Cosford, an aviation fan's must-see attraction housed in three huge hangars at the air base. It has a fascinating Cold War exhibition too and is free admission, though you will need to pay for parking.

Thrill seekers head for theme parks and zoos

FAMILIES looking to take a walk on the wild side, whether that's white-knuckle rollercoaster rides or getting close to big cats, have plenty of choice in the West Midlands.

West Midlands Safari and Leisure Park, between Kidderminster and Bewdley, has got both. The day out includes four-mile self-drive safari and 27-ride leisure park including **Venom Tower Drop**. A new attraction for 2012 is **Penguin Cove**, where visitors can watch the colony of Humboldt penguins explore their own beach or take a shower in their waterfall.

Dudley Zoological Gardens on Castle Hill, in the heart of the Black Country, has been transformed in recent years and in 2012 celebrates its 75th anniversary. Two new animal stars set to be a roaring success are **Amur tiger Tschuna** and **Sumatran tiger Daseep**. There's lots to discover in the 40-acre grounds of the historic (and supposedly haunted) ruined castle.

When it comes to castles, few are more impressive than **Warwick Castle** where The Castle Dungeon now hosts the **vengeful Witches of Warwick**. Merlin fans can experience The Dragon Tower and there are regular bird of prey displays and the trebuchet siege machine is put into action.

More than 50 rides and attractions ensure a busy day out at **Alton Towers Resort** in north Staffordshire. New for 2012 is **Nemesis Sub-Terrar**, a spin-off from the **Nemesis** attraction that takes the terror underground, and **Ice Age The 4D Experience** featuring characters from the hit animated movies.

Adrenaline

Drayton Manor Theme Park, near Tamworth, is staging a number of Guinness World Record attempts to mark its 62nd year. This year also features a new 4D movie based on classic fantasy **The Little Prince** and live shows. For younger children there is **Thomas Land**, featuring the popular living loco and his friends, whilst thrill-seekers can head for the big coasters, including **Ben 10 Ultimate Mission**, adrenaline-pumping drop tower **Apocalypse**, stand-up coaster **Shockwave**, splashastic **Stormforce 10** and the stomach-churning **Maelstrom**.

Hands-on, hi-tech displays can be visited at eye-catching **West Bromwich town centre venue The Public**, which is free admission, as is the equally iconic **New Art Gallery** in Walsall town centre. Both offer family craft events at weekends and during school holidays.

For those with a sweet tooth, **Cadbury World** at Bournville is the ultimate destination, visited by more than half a million chocoholics last year. Learn all about chocolate, particularly Birmingham's famous brand, and taste it too.



The Ben 10 Ultimate Mission rollercoaster at Drayton Manor Theme Park, near Tamworth in Staffordshire

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Midlands based Miss India UK, Deana Uppal has been improving her fitness levels whilst back in the UK at the Village Hotel & Health & Fitness Club in Walsall. After her fantastic victory in the Miss India UK title, Deana is back home, for a short time, before setting off to film her new Bollywood film, and in preparation for her demanding schedule Deana is currently being put through her paces by ex-military trainer Daniel Williams, who is part of the Personal Training team at the health club. Deana has also been participating in the hugely successful Zumba classes currently running as part of the Village extensive Group Fitness timetable.



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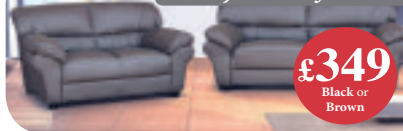
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£1.8m to kickstart housing market

DEVELOPERS have welcomed a £1.8 million scheme to kickstart the housing market in Walsall.

Grants have been made to help developers breathe new life into stalled schemes, with the impact beginning to be seen in Bloxwich.

In the first phase, five schemes were boosted and work is starting to take place, with more money now up for grabs for developers.

In Bloxwich, 18 homes are set to take shape off Field Road and Revival Street as well as 11 in Reeves Street, Bloxwich, after Midland Properties received a £245,000 boost.

Finance

Simon Griffiths, of Upward Developments, who are working with Midlands Properties on the Bloxwich scheme, welcomed the Walsall Council New Homes Bonus Grant, saying it had got work going again.

"It's enabled us to access finance we wouldn't have been able to," he said.

The first phase has seen more than £770,000 awarded to help build more than 200 homes worth £20 million.

Ramble to Hartshill

THE Walsall Group of the Ramblers will be heading to Hartshill, near Nuneaton for a seven mile circular walk on Sunday. This is a moderate walk on mainly gentle slopes with good tracks. Non-members are welcome. Contact 0121 353 9360 for further details.

Sprint Inn to open hotel



Lewis races ahead again - Black Country Olympian Denise Lewis opens the Holiday Inn at junction 10 with Mayor of Walsall Garry Perry

OLYMPIC gold medalist Denise Lewis returned to her home region to officially open a revamped hotel in Walsall which has created 50 jobs.

The West Bromwich-born retired athlete, who grew up in Wolverhampton, on Friday helped to mark the official ceremony at the new Holiday Inn, at junction 10 of the M6, by running through a banner. Previously known as The Compass Hotel, which closed in 2009, the building in Wolverhampton Road West has had a £4.5 million transformation. General manager David Jones said: "Holiday Inn is the official hotel sponsor for the London Olympics and we thought it was very apt for Denise to come and do the official opening."

Denise said it was great to see such development. The 39-year-old mother-of-three, who will be carrying the Olympic flame said: "I'm excited for the London Olympics. I have my tickets for the athletics."

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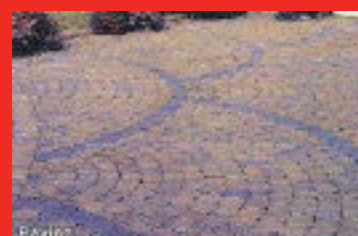
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Unseen Hoard items revealed by experts



The intricate gold and garnet work with delicate interlacing panels showing animals

NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN items from the Staffordshire Hoard have been revealed.

Treasures include a bird of prey crafted from gold and red garnets which archaeologists at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery believed might have been designed to decorate a weapon, shield or other Anglo-Saxon armour.

The artefacts, discovered in a Staffordshire field in July 2009 by metal detecting enthusiasts Terry Herbert, was last month the subject of an online discussion as two Staffordshire Hoard experts from the museum answered questions from a global audience of internet users, historians and academics.

Other new pictures from the huge find from the more than thousand year old kingdom of Mercia also show gold and garnet with interlaced animal panels and a silver foil fragment stamped with two facing male heads.

The treasure – which was viewed by more than 50,000 people when on display in US capital Washington DC – is the largest hoard of Anglo-Saxon gold and silver metalwork ever found.

It was discovered in a field near Hammerwich belonging to farmer Fred Johnson and comprises of more than 3,500 items.

Display

Experts date the artefacts to the 7th or 8th centuries.

The publishing of the new photos also coincided with a webchat hosted by Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery experts.

Curators Dr David Symons and Dr Morn Capper took questions from around the world on March 23.

The event was organised by Birmingham City Council.

A small selection from the hoard is on display at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.



Gold panel with Anglo-Saxon interlaced design



A fragment stamped with two male heads



Gold and garnet decoration

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LETTERS

Credit overdue for footballer

IN A PUB of my acquaintance there hangs a composite of three old photographs plus a scrawled about one who in his day would have been a well known figure of the sporting world, namely one Arthur Wharton, the first black professional footballer in the world.

While not a fan myself I remain fond of my native Cannock and I am surprised that Arthur Wharton is so little known today.

He was born in Accra (Gold Coast) in 1865 son of a missionary father and mother related to the country's Royal House. His father sent him to a relative in Cannock who saw to his local educa-

tion in a (then) Methodist college near Shoal Hill, Cannock.

He was a local athlete, footballer and cricketer who, in his career played football for Preston North End, Sheffield United and Rotherham.

The picture in question has a full length picture of him with a large trophy cup after breaking the world record for 100 yards, one with the team of (I think) Preston North End, and surprisingly, one of him as a miner accompanied by his two dogs in the 1920's.

Apparently he married, became a pub landlord in Yorkshire and died

when a colliery haulage hand in December 1930 at the age of 65 and was buried in an unmarked grave in the village of Edlington.

In his day he was known as a spectacular goalkeeper and I'm surprised his name is not better remembered today - and, sipping one's favourite pint of ale while regarding this picture, it really is a sobering thought.

RAY THURSFIELD
Love Lane
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LETTERS to the Editor

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Call on residents to join campaign

WHY should Walsall Housing Group, WHG, the largest social landlord in Walsall be submitting a planning application to Walsall Council (application number 12/0036/OL on 14.3.12) to build 699 properties of which only 25 of them would be properties to let at affordable rents? The other 674 properties would be for sale! Is this a new role for a social landlord?

Also, why demolish around 350 houses and bungalows on the former Goscote Estate yet now propose to leave most of this land empty (also part of the application)?

Why propose (as the application does) to build on Goscote's green-belt land which locals know as The Lea, when there are acres and acres of nearby brown field sites that were cleared for this very purpose?

The planning committee should have rejected it out of hand at the meeting on March 14. However by deferring it (the very least they could do), it gives the local residents of Goscote, Harden, Coalpool and Ryecroft as well as the wider community who object to losing this valuable green-belt, a breathing space to mount a popular "people's campaign" against it. Let us hope that enough people realise that they can make a difference if they stick together and fight!

ALAN BOWN
Holmeadow Avenue
Walsall

Jerry can comment an all-time low

FRANCIS Maude, in his warning to motorists to stockpile fuel in jerry cans and store it in their garages, is clearly contriving to cause as many innocent deaths as possible in an effort to discredit the tanker drivers should they go on strike. This government has stooped to an all-time low and is prepared to play politics with ordinary people's lives in order to achieve its objectives.

SEAN FLANAGAN
Highfield Way
Aldridge

Amateur

The area of Walsall have had many great amateur teams play in this well known competition Ogley Hay, Short Heath Utd, Yale and Towne to name just a few. The J W Hunt Cup is a part of the history of Wolverhampton.

When we have collated as many photos as we can it is hoped to be put on show in the Wolverhampton archives.

We have a website for anyone to log on to the website: www.simplesite.com/jwhuntcup my details for any reply e-mail wilf.exref@hotmail.com or telephone 01922 713388 or write to me 9 Seaforth Grove, Willenhall WV12 5FF.

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Rushall fire engine Ursula takes part in a 1920s Pelsall Carnival procession



The mighty Pelsall Ironworks belch smoke and flames in the mid 1800s



Pelsall coal miners' football team The Dreadnoughts ready to play in fancy dress to raise funds during the Miners Strike of 1921



Cooper's shop, Station Road, Pelsall, late 1800s

Medieval farming gave way to mines and iron

THE VILLAGE of Pelsall, between Bloxwich and Brownhills, was first mentioned in a charter of 994, amongst lands given to the monastery at Heantune (Wolverhampton) by Mercian noblewoman Wulfrun.

It was called Poolshalh, meaning 'a nook' or 'land between two streams belonging to Peol'. The Domesday Book entry of 1086 describes it as waste land belonging to the church. A chapel was built about 1311, so a settlement had been established but in 1563 it has only 14 householders. Evidence of medieval strip farming can still be seen on a tithe map of around 1840.

The original village centre was the area now known as Old Town. In 1760 remaining open fields were enclosed but holdings survived into the 1800s in Hall Field, High Ley, Riddings Field and Final Field.

By the second quarter of the



1800s Pelsall had clusters of houses on fringes of the common and at Newlands. The greatest concentration were in the current village centre. A Methodist Chapel and school were opened about 1836 in today's Station Road, and a new St Michael's Church was built in 1844. Shops became established in Norton Road and High Street.

Mining

Pelsall became a mining village, and about 1800 both shallow and deep seams were much worked. The arrival of the canal at about 1794 had opened up the area for industrialisation, with entrepreneurs and landowners quickly exploiting the mineral wealth and Pelsall became a mining village with both shallow and deep seams

worked. There was also a nailmaking cottage industry and in 1841 30 men gave that as their occupation.

Pelsall Ironworks was established in 1832 on North Common and grew massively under ownership of Davis and Bloomer. Together with Yorks Foundry and Ernest Wilkes & Co at Mouse Hill, it gave Pelsall a share of the heavy iron trade.

Wilkes' foundry survived until 1977 but the others ceased trading in the 1890s and the mines became unworkable, mainly due to flooding. The former ironworks site is now a nature reserve.

Prints of pictures in this feature and many others are available to purchase by order from Walsall Local History Centre, which is part of Walsall Council. For local and family history, drop into the centre in Essex Street, visit www.walsall.gov.uk/localhistorycentre or call 01922 721305.



Pelsall village cricketers Selwyn Turner Snr (left), G Breeze and Charlie Lunt in the 1890s

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50YR old female, seeks male for fun and socialising. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 233580

NATALIE 30, attractive, size 12, black, seeking male for romantic fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387753

KIND romantic, loving lady, 43, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387631

CARLY beautiful slim brunette looking for naughty mature male 50-70yrs for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376569

MANDY 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 360317

SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, tattle, no ties, WLTm kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 374843

DIVORCED very lovely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTm similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 370023

RACHAEL 49yrs young slim, caring, sincere and fun loving, WLTm similar male with GSOH for mutual companionship, perhaps more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 381343

STACEY young 20yr old looking for fun. Call me to find out more. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382091

NICOLE attractive, blonde, green eyes, young 51, professional, own home, 2 boys, loves jazz, countryside, dogs, seeks genuine male. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 390244

JANE 40's, blonde blue eyed petite build, with WLTm understanding tall, caring man for daytime meets. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375141

SHARON 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and WLTm male 45-55yrs for fun meets. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376565

LOUISE 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun with older male for romantic nights in and fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 383141

SALLY blonde looking for fun and mutually attentive relationship with male 35 plus. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385599

VERY attractive 18yr old fitness instructor looking to burn some extra calories with older experienced male who thinks he can keep up, 30-60. ACA. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 364311

KIRSTY 36 attractive, blonde, seeking open-minded decent male for fun, friendship, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 373013

JENNY blue eyed cuddly independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTm older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 374841

CATHY good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. P's call. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385603

BETTY lovely figured black female, 26, body confident, affectionate, WLTm older chocolate loving male for daytime meets. Any status. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 377511

HOME

alone with no one to call my own! 38yr old, naughty girl looking for fun. Can travel. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 363277

MICHELLE blonde blue eyed happy female, loves heels and being feminine, OHAC, self sufficient, looking for male for long term romance and more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382089

LUCINDA caring 31yr old single mum, sick of school runs and runny noses, looking for some adult fun and good times with available easygoing male up to 45yrs. ACA. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 383067

ANNA 29yr old nurse, 6ft curvy auburn beauty, likes cosy nights in, genuinely seeking older, well built male to look after. 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375139

JEANINE 40yrs, very cute petite artistic female who has a real passion for life, WLTm similar male for tactile LTR. 40-55yrs. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 383917

SLIM attractive lady with long auburn hair just wants to have a good time with likeminded guy up to 75yrs. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386119

40'S LA lovely curves, solvent but lonely, seeks nice older male to pamper, enjoy fun and affection with. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 358135

CHLOE pretty single female 39yrs, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lonely and looking for reliable male for mutual companionship maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387057

YOUNG looking attractive slim blonde, very lovely, WLTm nice guy for whatever life throws at us. No expectations. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 370111

SUZANNA lovely beautiful classy French lady looking for happy decent reliable man for lots of TLC and good times. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375711

I'M attractive, very tactile with an hourglass figure, looking for fun and good times. Can you help? Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 368889

PAULINE attractive petite nurse, loves evenings in/out, looking for honest male to share loving friendship and good times. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 379535

TERRI 39, attractive in great shape, blonde, blue eyes, seeking mainly professional to enjoy fun. Call me to find out more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387061

LADY widow, 58, slim, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks smart, intelligent, easygoing man with GSOH who enjoys conversations, days out, short breaks, meals out. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387247

CHANTAL lonely 40yr old female looking for male 40-45 for fun. Interested? Call me. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 363921

JOY loving with positive outlook, genuine, sincere, looking for a lovely man to take me out, enjoy mutual romance and look after. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380755

CAROL petite brunette, 39yrs, romantic, affectionate, outgoing, seeks similar male for nice times together. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 377513

VICKY honest caring female 33yrs, GSOH, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTm someone to enjoy nice things in life with and romance. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 383911

KIND romantic, loving lady, 43, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387189

LOVING

caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 364651

WIDOW 70, genuine, kind, caring, laidback, seeking male for friendship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387013

ELAINE kind, romantic, loving 43, seeks genuine male for relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 374845

EASYGOING down to earth female, likes cooking, exploring new things in life, seeks male. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386893

ANGIE 36, likes cosy nights in/out, country walks, sensitive, caring, loyal, spiritual, seeks male to share life with. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386885

39YR old single female, hurt in past, animal lover, likes most things, seeking genuine man for relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386887

CURRY red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks older male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 377432

SLIM professional, attractive, amiable lady, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH, who enjoys the good things in life. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386615

FEMALE looking for stocky male, 50-60 to share a happy life. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386169

WIDOW genuine, 70, kind, caring, N/S seeks male for friendship, relationship, holidays and outings. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 30313

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 363428

KIND romantic, loving lady, 43, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385309

TRISHA 50, attractive, black, outgoing, thoughtful, caring, understanding, likes holidays, seeks similar loving gent. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 383073

FUN loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks older male, 50-70. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 383325

TALL curvy female, 36dd, loves music, looking for fun and romance with dark male. Give me a call. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 359238

LONG haired blonde, 37, enjoys meals out but would love to cook a romantic meal for the man of her dreams. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 361076

ATTRACTIVE 45yr old female, seeks genuine, attractive male, 38-48 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 388550

DAWN attractive, slim female, 45, N/S, no ties, WLTm tall, fit male with get up and go attitude towards life. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375825

SLIM 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, seeks male. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 383973

RACHEL 38, slim, attractive, works full time, seeks sensitive, funny gent for friendship, companionship, hopefully relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375929

FEMALE

looking for gent, 65-70, caring, loving and independent. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 378295

LOUISE 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, GSOH, kind, caring, honest, genuine, loving, WLTm male, 43-55 with similar qualities for LTR. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376165

JANICE attractive female, 50, size 12-14, seeks younger gent, 40-50 for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376115

FARMER'S granddaughter, OHAC, stunningly attractive, respectable, sincere, WLTm countryman/bachelor, 48-62, 5ft 9ins plus, genuine, uncomplicated with GSOH and TLC. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387204

RAQUEL dark hair, tattooed, single mum, genuine, slim, petite, affectionate, sensitive, seeks special male. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 366755

WIDOWED lady 70's, likes countryside, travel, seaside, seeks nice gent to spend time with. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 362993

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384852

DO you know what women want? 40yr old petite lady needs spoiling and lots of love by attractive male, 45-55. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 372573

SUE attractive, slim, 50's, green eyes, varied interests, trendy, OHAC, seeks special guy. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 180587

FEMALE 51, slim, 5ft 4ins, genuine, caring, seeks soul mate who is genuine and caring. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 357671

28YR old brunette, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380918

FEMININE caring, young, mid 60's N/S woman, varied interests, seeks genuine, lovely male of similar age to share togetherness and LTR. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 321931

LAURA 36, seeks male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384171

SINGLE mum, 36, 2 children, seeks fun loving male with GSOH. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382956

HOLLY 25, slim, attractive, brunette, likes gym, WLTm nice, sensitive male of similar age for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380851

VAINESSA fun loving single mum, 5ft 4ins, brown eyes, seeks kind, loving, genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 304135

JANE 46, single mum, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380591

SHARPEY attractive, light skinned black female, 39, seeks attractive, fit, male, 30's, builder type, tanned, rugged for relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 231152

DIONNE 5ft 3ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, medium build, 42, single mum, seeks male. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376801

PATRICIA 5ft 5ins, red hair, blue eyes, likes nights out, meals, clubs, seeking nice young man who is kind, generous to look after me. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 378207

KATHY caring lady 60, medium build, smoker, seeks caring, smart male 55-65 for companionship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 374773

SINGLE MEN

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ROMANTIC white male, 46, 5ft 11ins, likes meals out, cinema, seeks female for good times. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 388185

TIGER Woods lookalike, seeking beautiful woman for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 388213

33YR old male, looking for nice lady for fun and frolics. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380829

MAURICE Shropshire farmer, 43, seeks farming lady of any age to share the good things in life with view to LTR. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 374021

STEVE 58, with ties, seeks lady any age/size for fun meets. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 390272

GLAMOROUS granny wanted, 60 plus by Steve, 54 for fun time. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 370841

BLACK country lad, 55, seeks likeminded girl for adult company, nights in and days out. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 388049

TEA for two. Fit 66yr old male, seeks lady, 63-70, fit, N/S, gentle caring to share fun and love. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387971

MALE 57, good looking, no ties, loyal, serene, seeks sincere female for TLC, soul mates forever. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382917

57YR old male, affable, good looking, loyal, caring, seeks similar mature female to end and lonely times and become soul mates. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 381821

FRIENDLY 34yr old white guy looking for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 389990

41YR old male, 6ft, dark hair, likes cosy nights in and good times out, seeks female to share good times with, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 369563

ATTRACTIVE tall, dark, professional male, 47, GSOH, enjoys sport, socialising, good company, seeks female with GSOH for fun, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387765

MALE 60, seeks female who needs a man for occasional evenings and weekend pleasure, any age/status. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 379873

ALAN young 62, N/S, slim, solvent, successful, OHAC, WLTm sensitive, caring female, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380651

ROBERT slim, intelligent, N/S, 50's, seeks attractive younger female for fun, friendship and love. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 312443

MALE 45, wants pillion passenger for Triumph Tiger, rides out, base meetings and tours, are you in for it? Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384321

40YR old male, likes pubs, bars, seeks female for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384325

MALE 58, 5ft 8ins, medium build, short hair, GSOH, seeks female, 50-60 to share happiness and life with. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 370649

DARK haired male, slim, blue eyes, fit, likes pubs, clubs, weekends away, seeks female, age/looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385087

MALE

72, N/S, active, energetic, likes caravans, days out, seeks likeminded lady. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387089

46 male, medium build, short hair, N/S, lonely, no ties, hurt in past, varied interests, sports, DIY, seeks female, 21-65. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385783

MALE 45, 5ft 7ins, medium build, short hair, N/S, no ties, honest, likes sports, cinema, countryside, DIY, seeks female, 20-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 332453

PAUL 63, tall, attractive, fit, normal, lonely, likes DIY, travel, nights out, seeks female to care for and turn life around. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386417

ATTRACTIVE kind guy 48, seeking open-minded lady for friendship and more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387009

THOUGHTFUL adventurous, attractive guy, 37, OHAC, likes nights in/out, seeks attractive girl with similar interests. Single mum welcome. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380663

IAN 61, seeks attractive younger lady for daytime fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386839

MATURE male, seeks female for kisses, cuddles and naughty indoor fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 363533

EARLY 50's male, seeks tactile female for kisses, cuddles and naughty indoor fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 351923

MALE 60, strong needs, seeks similar lady for regular evening/weekend meetings. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384219

TALL good looking guy 48, GSOH, honest, seeks open-minded, mature female for fun only relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386593

SLIM attractive man, 49, caring, GSOH, seeks lady 35-55 for evenings out and friendship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386521

STEVE 61, seeks attractive younger lady for daytime fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385875

HANDSOME attractive, fit, professional tucker, 38, WLTm attractive, honest, caring lady/mum, 31-45 for LTR. Colour unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 215790

MALE 57, honest, caring, seeks genuine honest, mature female to end the lonely days and nights. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 358515

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 388372

MALE 36, likes pubs, clubs, seeks female for friendship/relationship. Carol please leave your mobile number send : CHAT207 To : 65125 (T&C's below). Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 263938

MARK 43, affectionate, easygoing, caring, fun loving, seeking similar female. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 373223

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CASUALTY

BBC1, 9.10pm

Connie Fisher is back on the box, pushing her abilities once again by taking a guest role in the latest edition of the Beeb's flagship medical drama. She plays Amanda, a dog-walker who's out with her friend David and their pooches. Everything seems normal — until the ground under their feet gives way, and they're trapped in an underground cave system. Sam is first on the scene, but seeing as she suffers from a fear of the dark, she probably isn't the best person to handle the situation. The problem is, when Dylan arrives, they end up bickering. Fingers crossed they can put their differences to one side long enough to get poor David and Amanda out of the hole they're in — literally.

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Rowing: The Boat Race. Cambridge v Oxford (Start-time 2.15pm). **3.05** Golf: The Masters. **4.20** Final Score. **5.15** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **5.35** Film: Shrek. (2001) Animated adventure, with the voice of Mike Myers.

7.00 The Voice UK. Tom Jones, Jessie J, Will.i.am and Danny O'Donoghue turn their backs to another set of hopeful singers, only facing them if they hear something they like.

8.20 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Dale Winton hosts the quiz show in which five contestants answer questions to scoop a big prize. Includes the Lotto and Thunderball draws, presented by Mylene Klass.

9.10 Casualty. Sam and Dylan put aside their differences to save two dog walkers who fell into an underground cave system, and Linda's niece causes trouble in the ED.

10.00 BBC News; Weather. **10.20** Match of the Day. Including highlights of Chelsea v Wigan Athletic; National Lottery Update.

11.50 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two.

1.20 Weatherview. **1.25** BBC News.

6.00 CBeebies. **7.30** CBBC. **12.00** The Sky at Night. (R) **12.20** Film: Road to Rio. (1947) Comedy, starring Bob Hope and Bing Crosby. **2.00** Film: Bringing Up Baby. (1938) Screwball comedy, starring Katharine Hepburn and Cary Grant. **3.35** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.05** Flog It! **5.05** Easter from King's 2012 — Passiontide to Easter.

6.20 Dad's Army. Walmington-on-Sea's platoon assumes responsibility for some heavy artillery. Classic comedy, starring Arthur Lowe and John Le Mesurier. (R)

6.50 The National Lottery. Insight into the origins of the iceberg that sank the Titanic in 1912, charting its formation and 4,000-mile journey from the Greenland ice sheet. (R)

7.40 Timewatch. Documentary exploring people's enduring fascination with the Titanic, uncovering the truth behind the myths that have emerged since the vessel sank in 1912. (R)

8.30 Golf: The Masters Live. Hazel Irvine introduces the third round at the Augusta National in Georgia, where the players look to make a move ahead of the final day of the opening Major of the year. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

12.00 The Sarah Millican Television Programme. (R) **12.30** Film: Repo Chick. (2009) Premiere. Comedy sequel, starring Jaclyn Jonet. **1.55** Close.

6.00 CITY: Mini CITY. **7.25** CITY. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.20** The Real Housewives of New York City. **12.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **1.20** ITV News; Weather. **1.25** The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) **1.55** Film: The Secret of My Success. (1987) Comedy, starring Michael J Fox. **3.55** Film: Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory. (1971) Musical fantasy, based on Roald Dahl's classic children's book, with Gene Wilder. **5.45** Regional News; Weather.

6.00 ITV News; Weather. **6.15** Keith Lemon's LemonAid. New series. The comedy character tries to fulfil people's dreams.

7.00 All New You've Been Framed! Unlikely insurance claims. **7.30** Harry Hill's The Best of TV Burp 24. Classic send-ups from Burps past.

8.00 Britain's Got Talent. More acts show off their stuff in the third round of auditions, hosted by Ant and Dec.

9.15 Take Me Out. A sewage worker, a student, a groundsman and a model try to impress 30 single women, and last week's couples go on their dates. Paddy McGuinness hosts. Last in the series.

10.45 ITV News; Weather. **11.00** FILM: Magicians. (2007) Comedy, starring David Mitchell and Robert Webb.

12.40 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. **3.00** In Plain Sight. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

6.05 The Hoobs. (R) **6.30** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** The Grid. **7.25** MSA British Rallycross Championship. **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.55** T4: Koko Pop. **9.25** T4: Oily Murs: The Album Chart Show Special. (R) **9.55** T4: Made in Chelsea. **10.55** T4: Charlie's Angels. **11.55** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.20** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.50** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.55** Channel 4 Racing. **4.05** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.35** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.45** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.15 Come Dine with Me. Andy Wright hosts the final dinner party in Bristol. (R)

6.40 Channel 4 News. **7.10** 4thought.tv. **7.15** Deal or No Deal. Game show, with Noel Edmonds.

8.10 Big Fat Gypsy Weddings. Irish travellers the McFadyens celebrate a series of major events, including patriarch Chris's release from prison and an emotional wedding. Last in the series. (R)

9.10 The Million Pound Drop Live. Davina McCall presents the quiz show in which contestants can win £1million, but lose money for giving incorrect answers.

10.45 FILM: Showgirls. (1995) Adult drama, starring Elizabeth Berkley.

1.20 Film: A Scanner Darkly. (2006) Animated drama, starring Keanu Reeves. **3.00** The Moonbird. (R) **3.15** A Family Portrait. (R) **3.25** Franklin & Bash. **4.05** Privileged. (R) **4.50** 90210. (R) **5.30** Countdown. (R)

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Animal Rescue Squad. (R) **10.15** Meerkat Manor. (R) **10.45** Holiday Heaven on Earth. (R) **11.15** Ultimate Police Interceptors. (R) **12.15** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers. (R) **1.15** Rory McGrath's Pub Dig. (R) **2.20** Film: Ambush at Tornahawk Gap. (1953) Western, starring John Hodiak. **3.45** Film: War Arrow. (1953) Western, starring Jeff Chandler. **5.20** Film: Two Mules for Sister Sara. (1970) Western, starring Clint Eastwood and Shirley MacLaine.

7.10 5 News Weekend. **7.15** NCIS. The team flies to Israel for a final showdown. (R)

8.05 NCIS. Part two of two. The safe house is attacked, leaving Vance in hospital and Eli missing, but with all the Palestinians accounted for it is unclear who was responsible. (R)

9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. An investigation into three unexplained deaths presents a tough challenge for the team — and leads to fears that a public health emergency may be imminent. (R)

10.00 CSI: NY. The team investigates the murder of a real-estate broker.

10.55 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Benson and Stabler investigate a serial rapist.

11.50 Inside Hollywood. Magazine show.

12.00 SuperCasino. **3.55** Great Scientists. (R) **4.45** Rough Guide to Adventures. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2 **3.15** American Idol **6.05** Film: The Borrowers (1997) **8.00** The Zoo **9.00** Planet's Funniest Animals **9.15** Britain's Got More Talent **10.15** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **10.45** Take Me Out — The Gossip **11.45** Celebrity Juice

ITV3 **3.40** Film: Carry On Jack (1963) **5.35** Film: Carry On Up the Jungle (1970) **7.25** Film: Carry On Henry (1971) **9.15** Film: Carry On Cleo (1964) **11.05** Film: Carry On Jack (1963)

ITV4 **11.00** Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Royal Challengers Bangalore v Delhi Daredevils and Deccan Chargers v Chennai Super Kings. **8.00** Rookie Builders **9.00** British Touring Car Championship Highlights **10.30** Film: Ticker (2001)

BBC THREE **7.00** Doctor Who **7.50** Great Movie Mistakes 2011: NOT IN 3D **8.10** Shrek: Once Upon A Time **9.10** Film: Shrek 2 (2004) **10.35** World Series of Dating **11.00** Family Guy **11.50** American Dad!

BBC FOUR **7.00** Still Ringing After All These Years: A Short History of Bells **8.00** Monty Don's Italian Gardens **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.45** The Secret Life of Bob Monkhouse

E4 **3.55** Made in Chelsea **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **6.00** The Big Bang Theory: Access All Areas **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** The Big Bang Theory: It All Started with a Bang **8.00** Rules of Engagement **9.00** Film: Date Movie (2006) **10.40** The Big Bang Theory **11.35** The Cleveland Show

FILM4 **3.25** Five Children and It (2004) **5.10** New in Town (2009) **7.00** St Trinians (2007) **9.00** Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story (2004) **10.50** Kaboom (2010)

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THE ONE & ONLY DES O'CONNOR

ITV1, 7.30pm

Des O'Connor has now spent half a century in showbusiness, suffering a few lows, namely at Glasgow Empire on a Friday night after a few weeks in the business, and many dizzy highs, including his own ITV1 shows. At 80, Des could be taking things easier, but he's still entertaining the masses, namely in this show paying tribute to the singer, presenter and all-round entertainer. Comedians Matt Lucas, Rhod Gilbert and Paul O'Grady will all be worshipping at the O'Connor altar, along with Katherine Kelly, actor Robert Lindsay and presenter Melanie Sykes.

6.00 Breakfast. 7.30 Match of the Day. (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 Easter Day Eucharist from Coventry Cathedral. Live service led by the Bishop of Coventry. 11.00 Urbi et Orbi. Live coverage of the Pope's Easter message. 11.35 Country Tracks. (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. 12.35 Regional Programmes. 1.35 BBC News. 1.45 Human Planet. (R) 2.45 Wallace & Gromit: A Grand Day Out. (R) 3.10 Film: Mary Poppins. (1964) Disney musical fantasy, with Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke. 5.25 Songs of Praise.

6.00 Titanic with Len Goodman. A visit to the Belfast building where the ship was designed. (R)

6.30 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Countryfile. Matt Baker marks the 200th anniversary of the Monmouth and Brecon canal.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team return to Wimbledon.

9.00 Silent Witness. Part one of two. Nikki stumbles upon a sinister underworld of sex grooming and teenage prostitution.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day 2. Including action from Arsenal v Manchester City.

11.25 MotoGP. Action from the Qatar Grand Prix.

12.55 Weatherview. 1.00 Sign Zone: The Diamond Queen. (R) 2.00 Holby City. (R) 3.00 A History of Ancient Britain Special: Orkney's Stone Age Temple. (R) 4.00 BBC News.

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.35 Great British Menu. (R) 12.35 Film: A Distant Trumpet. (1964) Western, starring Troy Donahue. 2.30 Cycling: World Championships. Highlights from the Hisense Arena in Melbourne. 5.00 The Many Faces of Dame Judi Dench. Charting the actress's rise to fame. (R)

6.00 Frozen Planet.

Highlights of the series in which David Attenborough takes viewers on a journey through the polar year, from the depths of winter to the melting world of the summer. (R)

7.00 Golf: The Masters Live. Hazel Irvine introduces coverage of the fourth and final day at the Augusta National in Georgia, where the winner of the first Major of the year is set to be decided. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

12.00 Twenty Twelve. Conclusion. The Algerians issue the team with a deadline to find a solution to their demand – and the French threaten to pull out of the Games. Comedy, starring Hugh Bonneville. (R) 12.30 Film: Deadline. (2009) Premiere. A writer retreats to a remote house after a breakdown, only to discover a secret that threatens to change her life for ever. Horror, with Brittany Murphy and Thora Birch. 1.50 BBC News. 3.00 The Super League Show. Tanya Arnold introduces highlights of the latest Super League matches, including St Helens v Wigan Warriors, Hull FC v Hull Kingston Rovers and Warrington Wolves v Widnes Vikings. 4.00 Close.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. 7.25 CITV. 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 Ade in Britain. (R) 10.30 May the Best House Win. (R) 11.30 Matt Cardie: Into the Light. (R) 12.30 ITV News; Weather. 12.35 Britain's Got Talent. (R) 1.50 The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) 2.15 The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) 2.45 This Is Lionel Richie. (R) 3.45 Film: The Mummy. (1999)

6.00 Regional News; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 All Star Family Fortunes. New series. Reality TV star Mark Wright and Loose Women's Jane McDonald take part.

7.30 The One & Only Des O'Connor. Marking his 80th birthday and 50 years in showbusiness, the entertainer is joined by guests including Matt Lucas, Paul O'Grady and Oly Murs for chat, surprises and performances.

9.00 Titanic. New waiter Paolo is instantly smitten with cabin steward Annie. Barnes finds Watson loitering in stateroom and Jim is furious when wife Mary lets her guard down with Peter Lubov.

10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather.

10.15 Perspectives: Sergeant on Spike. John Sergeant presents a profile of Spike Milligan.

11.15 The Cube. A woman puts her knowledge of the games to the test. (R)

12.10 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.30 River Monsters. (R) 3.25 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Road to London 2012: That Paralympic Show. (R) 7.35 Channel 4 Presents – 2012: Hannah Cockcroft – Part Two. (R) 7.40 Sailing: America's Cup Uncovered. (R) 8.05 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 Sunday Brunch. 12.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 1.25 The Simpsons. (R) 1.55 The Simpsons. (R) 2.30 Film: Dr Dollittle. (1998) Comedy, starring Eddie Murphy. 4.05 Time Team. (R) 5.10 Channel 4 News. 5.15 4thought.tv. 5.20 Come Dine with Me. Four hosts compete for the £1,000 prize in east Lancashire. (R)

6.20 FILM: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel. (2009) Premiere, starring Zachary Levi and Jason Lee.

8.00 Celebrity Deal or No Deal. New series. Jimmy Carr takes part in the game show, trying to guess the value of mystery boxes to win up to £250,000 for his chosen charity. Hosted by Noel Edmonds.

9.00 Homeland. Carrie and Saul learn that Walker is alive.

10.00 Crucifixion. Gunther von Hagens' project to create a crucifix.

11.20 FILM: Lake Placid. (1999) Comedy horror, starring Bill Pullman.

1.00 Homeland. (2003) Drama, starring Sean Penn. 3.00 The Lobster Club. (R) 3.05 Crash, Bang, Wallow. (R) 3.10 Hollyoaks. (R) 5.20 Countdown. (R)

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. 6.05 Fifi and the Flowerrots. (R) 6.15 City of Friends. (R) 6.25 Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) 6.40 Igam Ogam. (R) 6.50 Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) 7.00 Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) 7.25 Thomas & Friends Special: Day of the Diesels. (R) 8.15 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) 8.25 Angelina Ballerina. (R) 8.45 Rupert Bear. (R) 9.00 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) 9.15 The Mr Men Show. (R) 9.25 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 9.40 Mist: Sheepdog Tales. (R) 10.00 Film: High School Musical 3: Senior Year. (2008) Teen musical sequel, starring Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens. 12.05 London: The Inside Story. (R) 1.05 Film: Lawrence of Arabia. (1962) Oscar-winning epic drama directed by David Lean, starring Peter O'Toole. 5.15 5 News Weekend. 5.20 Film: Toy Story. (1995) Pixar animated adventure, with the voices of Tom Hanks and Tim Allen.

7.00 William and Kate: One Year On. The royal couple's first year of marriage.

8.00 Once Upon a Time. Regina steps up her efforts to get Emma out of town; 5 News Update.

9.00 FILM: Blade II. (2002) Guillermo del Toro's action thriller sequel, starring Wesley Snipes and Kris Kristofferson.

11.00 FILM: The Hard Corps. (2006) Action adventure, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme.

1.10 SuperCasino. 3.55 UEFA Europa League Football. 4.50 Rough Guide to Short Breaks. (R) 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2
 2.10 Film: Happy Feet (2006) 4.15 Britain's Got Talent 5.30 Britain's Got More Talent 6.30 Film: Jurassic Park (1993) 9.00 Benidorm. Joyce tries to impress the hotel inspector. Last in the series. 10.00 Film: Gladiator (2000)

ITV3
 2.30 Film: The Best of Benny Hill (1974) 4.15 Film: Carry On Cleo (1964) 6.05 Film: Carry On Matron (1972) 8.00 Film: Holiday On the Buses (1973) 9.50 Film: The Magnificent Two. (1967) Morecombe and Wise comedy. 11.45 Film: Doctor Zhivago (1965)

ITV4
 11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Rajasthan Royals v Kolkata Knight Riders and Pune Warriors v Kings XI Punjab. 8.00 Minder. Arthur and Terry pursue a devious crook. 9.00 Film: Highlander. (1986) Fantasy adventure, starring Christopher Lambert. 11.20 Film: Death Wish 2 (1981)

BBC THREE
 7.00 The Voice UK 8.20 Film: Shrek the Third (2007) 9.45 Russell Howard's Good News Extra 10.30 Family Guy

BBC FOUR
 7.00 Ray Mears Goes Walkabout 9.00 Film: Strictly Ballroom. (1992) Australian dance comedy, starring Paul Mercurio. 10.30 Passion in Port Talbot: It Has Begun 11.30 Angelic Voices: The Choristers of Salisbury Cathedral

E4
 2.25 Film: See Spot Run (2001) 4.10 Ugly Betty 6.00 90210 6.55 Film: Footloose (1984) 9.00 Desperate Housewives 11.00 Made in Chelsea

FILM4
 3.05 James and the Giant Peach (1996) 4.40 Big (1988) 6.35 Hairspray (2007) Musical comedy, starring Nikki Blonsky and John Travolta. 9.00 Coming to America. (1988) Comedy, starring Eddie Murphy. 11.20 Dawn of the Dead (2004)

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Monday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Animal 24/7. 9.45 Homes Under the Hammer. 10.45 Don't Get Done, Get Dom. 11.30 Cash in the Attic. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Regional News; Weather. 1.25 Film: Antz. (1998) Animated comedy, with the voice of Woody Allen. 2.40 Film: Flushed Away. (2006) Animated adventure. 4.00 Wallace & Gromit: The Wrong Trousers. (R) 4.30 Final Score. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.15 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 BBC News; Weather. 6.45 Regional News; Weather. 6.55 Party Election Broadcast. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Holby City. 9.00 The Syndicate. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. National Lottery Update. 10.35 The Matt Lucas Awards. 11.10 Kevin Bridges What's the Story? (R) 11.40 The Estate. (R) 12.10 Film: Waking Up in Reno. (2002) Romantic comedy, with Billy Bob Thornton. 1.35 Weatherview. 1.40 Sign Zone: The Diamond Queen. (R) 2.40 The Apprentice. (R) 3.40 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.25 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 9.30 Film: Funny Girl. (1968) Musical biopic of Fanny Brice, starring Barbra Streisand. 1.50 Film: The Way We Were. (1973) Romantic drama, starring Robert Redford and Barbra Streisand. 3.45 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip. (R) 7.30 Great British Menu. 8.00 Chaplains: Angels of Mercy. 8.30 The Little Paris Kitchen. Cooking with Rachel Khoo. 9.00 Modern Spies. 10.00 Simon Amstell: Do Nothing Live. 11.00 The Story of Slapstick. (R) 12.00 Film: Gregory's Girl. (1981) Romantic comedy, starring John Gordon Sinclair. 1.30 Film: Blame It On Fidel. (2006) Premiere. Drama, starring Nina Kerval-Bey. 3.00 BBC News. 3.25 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional News; Weather. 4.00 The Great British Taste Tour. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.25 Party Election Broadcast. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Countrywide Kitchen. 8.00 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Celebrity. (R) 9.00 The Mighty Mississippi with Trevor McDonald. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Benidorm. (R) 11.35 Ladette to Hell: Australia. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Crossing Jordan. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.05 The Treacle People. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 Film: Ben-Hur. (1959) Oscar-winning epic, starring Charlton Heston. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Inside Nature's Giants: Hippo. New series. The team dissects a hippopotamus in the Luangwa Valley, Zambia. 9.00 Embarrassing Bodies. The doctors visit Tamworth, Staffordshire. 10.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. 11.00 Homeland. Carrie and Saul learn that Walker is alive. (R) 12.00 Random Acts. 12.05 Disasters at Sea: Why Ships Sink. (R) 1.10 Death Row. (R) 2.05 Film: I Heart Huckabee. (2004) Comedy, starring Dustin Hoffman. 3.50 Franklin & Bash. (R) 4.35 St Elsewhere. (R) 5.20 Privileged. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Shift. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.05 5 News Lunchtime. 12.10 Meerkat Manor. (R) 12.40 Home and Away. 1.10 Neighbours. 1.40 The Phantom of the Opera at the Royal Albert Hall. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 Inside Hollywood. 6.35 Monkey Life. (R) 7.00 Cowboy Traders. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Ultimate Police Interceptors. 9.00 Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge. 10.00 Film: Outlaw. (2007) Crime drama, starring Sean Bean. 12.10 America's Toughest Prisons. (R) 1.10 SuperCasino. 3.55 House Doctor. (R) 4.20 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.10 HouseBusters. (R)

Tuesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Animal 24/7. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Don't Get Done, Get Dom. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News; Weather. 6.55 Party Election Broadcast. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Holby City. 9.00 The Syndicate. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. National Lottery Update. 10.35 The Matt Lucas Awards. 11.10 Kevin Bridges What's the Story? (R) 11.40 The Estate. (R) 12.10 Film: Waking Up in Reno. (2002) Romantic comedy, with Billy Bob Thornton. 1.35 Weatherview. 1.40 Sign Zone: The Diamond Queen. (R) 2.40 The Apprentice. (R) 3.40 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.25 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 Film: His Majesty O'Keefe. (1954) Swashbuckling adventure, starring Burt Lancaster. 1.00 See Hear. 1.30 Hayley Mills. 1.15 Animal Park. 2.15 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flog It! (R) 4.30 Perfection. (R) 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip. (R) 7.30 Great British Menu. 8.00 The Hairys Berks Bakeathon. 9.00 Horizon. 10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 The Hidden Romantic. (R) 11.55 The Secret Garden. (R) 1.35 The Super League Show. 4.30 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional News; Weather. 4.00 The Great British Taste Tour. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.25 Party Election Broadcast. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Countrywide Kitchen. 8.00 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Celebrity. (R) 9.00 The Mighty Mississippi with Trevor McDonald. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Benidorm. (R) 11.35 Ladette to Hell: Australia. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Crossing Jordan. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.05 The Treacle People. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 Undercover Boss USA. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 How to Cook Like Heston. (R) 12.35 River Cottage Bites. 12.55 Film: Rear Window. (1954) 3.05 Channel 4 Presents - 2012: David Clarke. (R) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 SuperSize vs Superskinny. 9.00 The Undateables. 10.00 Facejacker. 10.30 Hit the Road Jack. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Desperate Housewives. 12.10 Poker. 1.10 Channel 4 Presents - 2012: Helen Turner. (R) 1.15 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 1.40 Sailing: America's Cup Uncovered. 2.10 MSA British Rallycross Championship. (R) 2.35 The Grid. (R) 3.05 Late Night Poker. (R) 4.00 FIA GT Championship. 4.55 Not Just Cricket. (R) 5.00 Full Metal Challenge.

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Shift. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Film: Mary Higgins Clark's Moonlight Becomes You. (1998) Mystery thriller, starring Donna Mills. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 5.30. 7.00 Ultimate Police Interceptors. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Cowboy Traders; 5 News at 9. 9.00 NCIS. 10.00 Law & Order: Criminal Intent. Nichols calls in the help of a forensic scientist he admires. 11.00 CSI: NY. 10.55 CSI: Miami. (R) 11.55 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 12.50 SuperCasino. 3.55 House Doctor. 4.20 Michaela's Wild Challenge. 5.10 HouseBusters. 5.35 Nick's Quest. (R)

Wednesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Animal 24/7. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Don't Get Done, Get Dom. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News; Weather. 6.55 Party Election Broadcast. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Fake Britain. (R) BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Waterloo Road. 9.00 The Apprentice. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The National Lottery Wednesday Night Draws. 10.45 Match of the Day; National Lottery Update. 11.55 The Syndicate. (R) 12.55 Weatherview. 1.00 Sign Zone: See Hear. (R) 1.30 Watchdog. (R) 2.30 Orbit: Earth's Extraordinary Journey. (R) 3.30 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.15 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 Film: His Majesty O'Keefe. (1954) Swashbuckling adventure, starring Burt Lancaster. 1.00 See Hear. 1.30 Hayley Mills. 1.15 Animal Park. 2.15 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flog It! (R) 4.30 Perfection. (R) 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip. (R) 7.30 Great British Menu. 8.00 Our Food. 9.00 Divine Women. 10.00 The Apprentice: You're Fired! 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Film: Little Dieter Needs to Fly. (1998) Premiere. Director: Herzog. 11.55 The Secret Garden. (R) Dieter Dengler. 12.30 Medium. (R) 1.15 BBC News.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional News; Weather. 4.00 The Great British Taste Tour. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.25 Party Election Broadcast. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Countrywide Kitchen. 8.00 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Celebrity. (R) 9.00 The Mighty Mississippi with Trevor McDonald. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The One & Only Des O'Connor. (R) 12.05 Road Warriors. (R) 1.00 The News. 1.05 Film: The Great British Taste Tour. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.25 Party Election Broadcast. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Countrywide Kitchen. 8.00 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Celebrity. (R) 9.00 The Mighty Mississippi with Trevor McDonald. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Benidorm. (R) 11.35 Ladette to Hell: Australia. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Crossing Jordan. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 Sall Mali. (R) 6.05 The Treacle People. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 Undercover Boss USA. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 Channel 4 Presents - 2012: Will Bayley - Part Two. (R) 12.10 The Fabulous Baker Brothers. (R) 12.40 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.50 Film: The Man Who Knew Too Much. (1956) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Four Rooms. 9.00 The Undateables. 10.00 Facejacker. 10.30 Hit the Road Jack. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Desperate Housewives. 12.10 Poker. 1.10 Channel 4 Presents - 2012: Helen Turner. (R) 1.15 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 1.40 Sailing: America's Cup Uncovered. 2.10 MSA British Rallycross Championship. (R) 2.35 The Grid. (R) 3.05 Late Night Poker. (R) 4.00 FIA GT Championship. 4.55 Not Just Cricket. (R) 5.00 Full Metal Challenge.

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Shift. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Film: Mary Higgins Clark's Moonlight Becomes You. (1998) Mystery thriller, starring Donna Mills. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 5.30. 7.00 Ultimate Police Interceptors. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Cowboy Traders; 5 News at 9. 9.00 NCIS. 10.00 Law & Order: Criminal Intent. Nichols calls in the help of a forensic scientist he admires. 11.00 CSI: NY. 10.55 CSI: Miami. (R) 11.55 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 12.50 SuperCasino. 3.55 House Doctor. 4.20 Michaela's Wild Challenge. 5.10 Nick's Quest. (R)

Thursday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Animal 24/7. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Don't Get Done, Get Dom. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News; Weather. 6.55 Party Election Broadcast. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Watchdog. 9.00 Ivory Vars: Out of Africa. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Who Do You Think You Are? US. 11.20 The Story of the Turban. 12.00 Film: View from the Top. (2003) Romantic comedy, starring Gwyneth Paltrow. 1.25 Holiday Weatherview. 1.30 Sign Zone: Countryville. (R) 2.30 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 3.30 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.15 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 Film: Tycoon. (1947) Romantic drama, starring John Wayne and Laraine Day. 1.40 Racing from Aintree. The opening day of the Grand National. 2.15 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flog It! (R) 4.30 Perfection. (R) 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip. (R) 7.30 Great British Menu. 8.00 Natural World: Heligan. Secrets of the Lost Gardens. (R) 9.00 White Heat. 10.00 The Sarah Millican Television Programme. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Modern Spies. (R) 12.20 Medium. (R) 1.45 BBC News. 4.15 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional News; Weather. 4.00 The Great British Taste Tour. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.25 Party Election Broadcast. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Are Your Kids Contagious? Tonight. 8.00 Emmerdale. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Long Lost Family. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Take Me Out. (R) 12.00 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Crossing Jordan. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 Sall Mali. (R) 6.05 The Treacle People. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 Undercover Boss USA. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 Channel 4 Presents - 2012: Will Bayley - Part Two. (R) 12.10 The Fabulous Baker Brothers. (R) 12.40 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.50 Film: The Man Who Knew Too Much. (1956) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Get Your House on Order. 9.00 Peter Kay Live at the Bolton Albert Halls. (R) 10.00 Derek. 10.35 The Inbetweeners. (R) 11.05 The Inbetweeners. (R) 11.40 Random Acts. 11.45 Embarrassing Bodies. (R) 12.45 The Undateables. (R) 1.45 One Born Every Minute. (R) 2.40 Damien Hirst: Thoughts, Work, Life. (R) 3.25 The Bible: A History. (R) 4.20 Time Team. (R) 5.15 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Shift. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Film: The Memory Keeper's Daughter. (2008) Drama, starring Emily Watson. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 5.30. 7.00 Holiday Heaven on Earth. 7.30 Ultimate Police Interceptors. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Master and Commander: The True Story. (R) 5 News at 9. 9.00 Film: The Perfect Storm. (2000) Fact-based disaster drama, starring George Clooney. 11.30 Nature Shock: The Seal Ripper. (R) 12.35 SuperCasino. 3.55 House Doctor. (R) 4.20 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.10 Nick's Quest. (R)

Friday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Animal 24/7. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Don't Get Done, Get Dom. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News; Weather. 6.55 Party Election Broadcast. 7.00 The One Show. BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Would I Lie to You? 9.00 Have I Got News for You. 9.30 Not a Word. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The Graham Norton Show. 11.20 The National Lottery Friday Night Draws. 11.30 The Matt Lucas Awards. (R) 12.05 EastEnders. 2.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.30 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 3.05 Ken Russell: A Bit of a Devil. (R) 4.05 Britain's First Photo Album. (R) 4.35 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 Film: The Big Sky. (1952) Western, starring Kirk Douglas. 1.45 Racing from Aintree. The opening day of the Grand National. 2.15 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flog It! (R) 4.30 Perfection. (R) 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. 6.30 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip. (R) 7.30 Great British Menu. 8.00 Mastermind. 8.30 Gardeners' World. 9.00 Brick by Brick: Rebuilding Our Past. 10.00 Twenty Twelve. 10.30 Newsnight. 11.00 The Review Show. 11.45 Weather. 11.50 Film: Down in the Valley. (2006) Drama, starring Edward Norton. 1.35 Film: Yella. (2007) Premiere. Drama, starring Nina Hoss. 3.00 BBC News. 4.30 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 3.59 Regional News; Weather. 4.00 The Great British Taste Tour. 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Are Your Kids Contagious? Tonight. 8.00 Emmerdale. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Long Lost Family. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Take Me Out. (R) 12.00 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Crossing Jordan. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 Sall Mali. (R) 6.05 The Treacle People. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 Undercover Boss USA. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 Quick Bakes with Eric Larrard. (R) 12.25 Film: Topaz. (1969) Hitchcock spy thriller, starring John Forsythe. 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 The Million Pound Drop Live. 10.35 Rude Tube: Extreme Rides. (R) 11.35 The Mad Bad Ad Show. 12.25 Film: The Beach. (2000) Drama. 2.25 Random Acts. (R) 2.30 Mesh: Covert. (R) 2.35 Stonehouse Reunion. (R) 2.40 My Name Is Earl. (R) 3.00 Franklin & Bash. 3.45 St Elsewhere. (R) 4.30 Privileged. (R) 5.10 Countdown. (R) 5.55 TBA.

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Shift. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News. 12.15 River Cottage. Even Greater British Adventure. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 NCIS. (R) 3.15 Film: Trial by Fire. (2008) 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 5.30. 7.00 Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge. (R) 5 News. 8.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers; 5 News at 9. 9.00 The Mentalist. 10.00 CSI: NY. 10.55 Law & Order: Criminal Intent. (R) 11.55 Inside Hollywood. (R) 12.00 SuperCasino. 3.55 Motorsport Mundial. 4.20 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.10 Nick's Quest. (R)

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New homes ideal for family market

HOME-HUNTERS looking for a great place to bring up the family can find what they are looking for at Saddlers Brook, Taylor Wimpey's in-demand development in Rushall.

The leading housebuilder's conveniently located new homes collection offers an appealing selection of three and four-bedroom properties set in the heart of a leafy residential area off Cambridge Lane South – and it's proving a big hit with families of all sizes.

Jan Tittley, regional sales and marketing director for Taylor Wimpey, says: "The great location of Saddlers Brook offers everything a family needs for day-to-day living within easy reach. There's a pre-school, three primary schools and a secondary school in Rushall, plus a great array of local shops, a medical centre and plenty of green open spaces and play areas for children."

"Add in the spacious layouts and sensational prices of the brand new homes at Saddlers Brook, and it's fair to say it's the perfect place to bring up the family! But with properties at this welcoming development in such high demand, families keen to get moving should come along and find out more, because they won't be available for long!"

Just one of the generously proportioned homes available to reserve at Saddlers Brook is the four-bedroom 'Oakley' detached house, priced from just £199,995.

Perfect for growing families, this handsome property boasts a spacious kitchen/dining room opening through French doors to the private rear garden, plus a large lounge with bay window, and a guest cloakroom off the entrance hallway. Upstairs, the landing leads to a master bedroom with en-suite shower room, three further bedrooms and a main bathroom. A garage and parking can be found outside.

Visitors can gain a unique insight into the wonderful lifestyle opportunities Taylor Wimpey's homes offer growing families by exploring the 'Oakley' showhome at the development.

Meanwhile, alternative four-bedroom detached designs available at the development include the 'Florence' from £244,995, while three-bedroom homes at Saddlers Brook start from as little as £161,995.

Saddlers Brook is a tranquil new community of two, three and four-bedroom homes in the popular residential area of Rushall in Walsall. The picturesque Ford Brook runs through this thoughtfully designed development, providing selected properties with an attractive waterfront aspect.

To find out more about the family-sized homes at Saddlers Brook, visit the four-bedroom 'Oakley' showhome and Sales and Marketing Suite at Saddlers Brook, located off Carbridge Lane South, Rushall, and open Thursday to Monday from 10am to 5pm. Alternatively, the sales executive can be contacted on 0845 672 4132.



The new homes enjoy convenient access to Rushall's community facilities and to the north is some fine countryside with pleasant walks, particularly along Rushall Canal



HOMES AND FINANCIAL

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23 Elizabeth Road, Brookhouse, Walsall WS5 3PF

- Three double bedrooms, master room with en-suite shower
- Lounge
- Part fitted kitchen
- Bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Driveway
- Detached tandem garage
- Front and side gardens



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FOR SALE

26 Sheridan Street, Pleck, Walsall WS2 9PX

- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Gas central heating
- Fitted kitchen
- Double glazing
- Bathroom
- Driveway
- Conservatory
- Enclosed rear garden



SEMI-DETACHED BUNGALOW

REDUCED £159,995

FOR SALE

78 Lord Street, Palfrey, Walsall

- Three Bedrooms
- Front Room
- Living Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden



END TERRACED HOUSE

OFFERS OVER £105,000

TO LET

Chatha House, 18 Lichfield Street, Walsall WS1 1TJ

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- Reception
- Kitchen
- 3 Store Rooms
- 4 WC and disabled WC
- Cellar



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<p>TO LET</p> <p>Anson Court Stafford Technology Park</p> <p>Modern office units to let from 100 sqft. Available on flexible terms. Cat 2 lighting. On site parking. Prominent location on the A513 Stafford Eastern Bypass, within two miles of Stafford Town Centre.</p> <p>Show suite open for viewings!</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>The Lightworks Market Street, Hednesford</p> <p>Offices, Retail/Leisure units available from 350 to 700 sqft in covered shopping arcade fronting the principal retail pitch within Hednesford Town Centre. The lock-up units have double glazed upvc shop fronts and doors. Flexible terms.</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>Anglesey Business Park Hednesford</p> <p>Industrial / Storage units available from 650 sqft to suit a variety of sizes on well established business park. Roller shutters, WC's and ancillary offices in most units. Available on flexible terms. Near to Hednesford Town Centre.</p>
<p>TO LET</p> <p>Virage Park Bridgton, Cannock</p> <p>Offices available from 1600 sqft located one mile from Cannock Town Centre on the A34 Walsall Road, close to A5, M6 J11 and J77 of the M6 Toll road. Available on flexible terms.</p> <p>Show suite open for viewings!</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>High Green Arcade Cannock Town Centre</p> <p>Office, Retail/Leisure unit available from 250 sqft. Situated within the principal retail area of Cannock Town Centre. Large shop frontage to Wolverhampton Road with on site parking to the rear of the property. Available on flexible terms.</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>Bridgton Business Centre Bridgton, Cannock</p> <p>Office, Retail/Leisure units available from 250 sqft. Situated on the main retail parade within Bridgton, accessed via an archway from North Street. Allocated on site parking to central courtyard. Available on flexible terms.</p>
<p>TO LET</p> <p>Lakeside Plaza Bridgton, Cannock</p> <p>Office, Retail/Leisure units available from 7290 sqft located two miles south of Cannock Town Centre. Roller shutter door to the rear of the property, on site parking, close to all major arterial routes and available on flexible terms.</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>Park Plaza Hawes Green, Cannock</p> <p>Office units available from smaller starter units 150 to 3645 sqft. Located to the east of Cannock Town Centre accessed from Hayes Way off the Eastern Way Bypass A460. Raised access flooring to offices with on site parking. Flexible terms.</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>Wynns Venture Centre Bridgton, Cannock</p> <p>Light Industrial, Storage units available from 690 sqft, situated in Bridgton, one mile South of Cannock Town Centre, close to A5, M6 J11 and J77 of the M6 Toll road. Roller shutter and WC's to units with on site parking. Flexible terms.</p>

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This Queens Lea semi detached home is on the market for £104,950

A THREE-BEDROOM semi-detached house, ideal for a first-time buyer or downsizer, is on the market in Queens Lea, Willenhall with a price-tag of £104,950.

Close to shops and the centres of Walsall and Willenhall, the M6 motorway provides ready access to the wider West Midlands.

On the ground floor the lounge, 15ft 4in by 10ft 5in, has a fire surround and door to the kitchen/dining area measuring 20ft 7in

by 9ft 9in with fitted units at one end, gas cooker point and plumbing for automatic washing machine and a dining area with gas fire.

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a bathroom with suite comprising bath and wash hand basin, with a separate WC.

Outside to the front is a driveway providing off-road parking and to the rear a good sized lawned garden with paved patio area.

Contact the estate agent Fraser Wood on (01922) 627686 for further details.

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AUCTION

26th April 2012
11am At Holte Suite,
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102 Lots to include properties on behalf of:



Lot 1	Draycott, 25 Drifford, Sutton Coldfield.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 36	143-153 Hospital Street, Newtown.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 70	174 Appleton Avenue, Great Barr.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 2	Sycamore Centre, Sycamore Road, Aston.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 37	69 Stubby Lane, Wednesfield.....	Commercial & Residential Investment	Lot 71	36 Gladstone Road, Erdington.....	Residential Investment
Lot 3	1-15 High Street, Brierley Hill.....	Commercial/Residential Investment	Lot 38	52 Swan Street, Dudley.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 72	6 Petworth Close, Willenhall.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 4	44-46 High Street, Droitwich.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 39	85 Toplock Cottage, Walsall Road, Great Barr.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 73	50 Trafalgar Court, New Birmingham Road, Tividale.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 5	8 Coplow Terrace, Coplow Street, Ladywood.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 40	Uncle Toms Cabin, Corporation Street, Stoke on Trent.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 74	420-422 Birmingham Road, Wyde Green.....	Commercial Investment
Lot 6	43 Sedgley Road East, Tipton.....	Residential Investment	Lot 41	2 & 2a Parkhouse Street, Stoke on Trent.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 75	22 Nineveh Avenue, off Nineveh Road, Handsworth.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 7	132 Edenhurst Road, Longbridge.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 42	3 Ladysmith Road, Stoke on Trent.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 76	463 Old Walsall Road, Great Barr.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 8	3,3A, 3B & 3C Bilston Street, Wolverhampton.....	Commercial Investment	Lot 43	36 Greystone Passage, Dudley.....	Residential Investment	Lot 77	28 Scotts Green Close, Dudley.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 9	20 Churchdale Close, Nuneaton.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 44	38 Greystone Passage, Dudley.....	Residential Investment	Lot 78	74 Rosemary Crescent, Dudley.....	Residential Investment
Lot 10	Flat 1-19 The Croft, Willenhall.....	Residential Investment	Lot 45	40 Greystone Passage, Dudley.....	Residential Investment	Lot 78A	85 Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 11	Linthouse Lane, Wolverhampton.....	Commercial Investment	Lot 46	42 Greystone Passage, Dudley.....	Residential Investment	Lot 79	67 Church Street, Darlaston.....	Residential Investment
Lot 12	Castlecroft Road, Finchfield, Wolverhampton.....	Commercial Investment	Lot 47	1 Denbigh Street, Stoke on Trent.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 80	10 Bromford Court, Bromford Lane, Washwood Heath.....	Residential Investment
Lot 13	51 Crathorne Avenue, Wolverhampton.....	Residential Investment	Lot 48	6 Denbigh Street, Stoke on Trent.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 81	113 Barnford Crescent, Oldbury.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 14	121 Oxford Road, Smethwick.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 49	46 Crystal Street, Stoke on Trent.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 82	1 Harborne Court, Harborne Park Road, Harborne.....	Residential Investment
Lot 15	Red Lion, 233 Horninglow Road, Burton on Trent.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 50	12 Botteville Road, Acocks Green.....	Residential Investment	Lot 83	261-263 Slade Road, Erdington Commercial Part.....	Vacant Part Investment
Lot 16	3 Bredon Drive, Curdworth.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 51	139 Pye Green Road, Cannock.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 84	207 Aldershaw Road, South Yardley.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 17	749-751 Washwood Heath Road, Alum Rock.....	Commercial Investment	Lot 52	Unit 12 Phoenix Business Park, Avenue Road, Aston.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 85	33 Mountford Crescent, Aldridge.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 18	86 Madin Road, Tipton.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 53	Toby Jug, Newman Way, Rubery.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 86	1003 Stratford Road, Shirley.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 19	50 Stowheath Lane, Wolverhampton.....	Residential Investment	Lot 54	21 Western Road, Stratford upon Avon.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 87	141 Brookhill Road, Ward End.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 20	Royal Hotel, Station Road, Eckington, Sheffield.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 55	89-92 Walsall Street, Willenhall.....	Residential Investment	Lot 88	8 Hemmings Street, Darlaston.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 21	7 Stonehaven Grove, Hall Green.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 56	11 The Circle, Nuneaton.....	Land	Lot 89	2, 2a & 9a Lodge Crescent, Netherton.....	Residential Investment
Lot 22	121 Birkenshaw Road, Great Barr.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 57	40 North Street, Dudley.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 90	Strategic Lane SL113, Rowley Regis, Nr Oldbury.....	Land
Lot 23	Crown Inn, Main Street, North Muskham, Newark.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 58	Block E1 & E2 Hagley Court North, Brierley Hill.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 91	150 Perch Avenue, Chelmsley Wood.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 24	82 Lower Prestwood Road, Wolverhampton.....	Commercial & Residential Vacant	Lot 59	67 Hall Street East, Darlaston.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 92	78 Boulton Road, Handsworth.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 25	153 Johnson Road, Erdington.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 60	48 Sandon Road, Edgbaston.....	Residential Investment	Lot 93	1 Shillcock Grove/47 Brearley Street, Hockley.....	Commercial Vacant
Lot 26	Land at Manor Way, Halesowen.....	Land	Lot 61	50 Sandon Road, Edgbaston.....	Residential Investment	Lot 94	100 Poplar Avenue, Edgbaston.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 27	306 Station Road, Stechford.....	Residential Investment	Lot 62	43 Harborne Park Road, Harborne.....	Residential Investment	Lot 95	61 Tintern Road, Perry Barr.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 28	774 College Road, Kingstanding.....	Commercial & Residential Investment	Lot 63	45 Harborne Park Road, Harborne.....	Residential Investment	Lot 96	61 Bradley Lane, Bilston.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 29	28 Lewis Road, Oldbury.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 64	7a Portway Hill, Tividale.....	Land	Lot 97	6 St Oswalds Road, Small Heath.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 30	707/4 Dangerfield Lane, Wednesbury.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 65	4 Feldon Lane, Halesowen.....	Residential Investment	Lot 98	5 Victoria Street, Brierley Hill.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 31	179 Alexander Road, Acocks Green.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 66	25 Stanley Road, Atherstone.....	Residential Investment	Lot 99	2 Severn Cottages, Quatford.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 32	127 Park Road, Bearwood.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 67	216 Halesowen Road, Old Hill.....	Commercial Vacant	Lot 100	92 Swanshurst Lane, Moseley.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 33	5 Cuthberts Yard, Barlston, Works.....	Residential Investment	Lot 68	88 Colehill Road, Marston Green.....	Residential Vacant	Lot 101	131 Hurdler Lane, Yardley.....	Residential Vacant
Lot 34	71 Northgate, Walsall.....	Residential Investment	Lot 69	27 Hall Street, Bilston.....	Commercial Vacant			
Lot 35	The Old Coach House off Green Street, Smethwick.....	Commercial Vacant						



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**Entries Now Invited
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GARDENING

thechronicle

Sowing the seeds for garden full of colour

IF you have a fair space to fill in your flower border, don't forget this can be done economically with one or two packets of mixed hardy annual seeds.

Sown in soil in April that has been improved with a soil conditioner or Miracle-Gro Expand 'n Gro, you will soon see a plethora of tiny seedlings emerge.

Hardy annuals include many cottage garden plants including annual lavatera, cornflower, Californian poppy, coreopsis, clarkia, love-in-a-mist, tiny viola and linaria.

Together they will make a great summer display that is easy to grow.

If you want dwarf plants, perhaps for the front of the border, look for Thomson & Morgan's Fairy Mixed that includes only plants that will flower to a maximum height of 45cm (18in).

Quickly

See that all the plants that germinate have enough space in which to thrive. If your sowing has been too thick you can always dig out clumps and replant them.

Slugs and snails are a particular nuisance in spring when their voracious appetite can quickly ruin emerging shoots and new foliage from plants such as delphiniums, hostas, dahlias, sweet peas and tulips.

Knowing slugs move and feed at night many gardeners go out with a torch at dusk to pick up and destroy these nocturnal plant destroyers.

I prefer to thinly scatter a few Slug-Clear Ultra pellets around vulnerable plants. This blue works particularly well because it is effective for up to two weeks, even in showery weather. If you prefer not to have pellets on the soil



Cottage garden plants like these coreopsis can be grown from seed

Topical tips

Plant out summer flowering bulbs, corms and tubers such as gladioli, lily and dahlias in soil that has been improved with Levington Soil Conditioner or Miracle-Gro Expand 'n Gro. Begonia tubers can be encouraged into growth indoors by placing the tubers on top of pots full of Miracle-Gro Potting Mix.

surface you can always water the ground with a liquid slug killer such as SlugClear. It dissolves in water and distributed through a watering can, over and around decorative plants.

The metaldehyde control gets underground where it does a great job controlling slugs and snails hiding under the soil surface.

Roses and other flowering shrubs will be producing new leaves that may need protection from plant diseases

such as mildew, rust and rose blackspot. If your roses were badly infected last year then it's a good idea to start treatment against rose blackspot early in the season.

A couple of treatments a fortnight apart with RoseClear Ultra Gun! will provide internal protection that will kill any spores of this disease that may have got into the new foliage from a carry-over from last year's growth. It will also kill any aphids.

Feed the foliage and roots of spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils and crocus to give them the energy needed to produce flower buds for next year.

This is especially important if you are growing bulbs in a grassed area where you may be tempted to trim off the foliage before they have finished their life cycle. A couple of feeds of Miracle-Gro All Purpose Soluble Plant Food a fortnight apart will ensure they are able to set new flower embryos

● Words and photographs supplied by John Clowes, of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company

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who has properties available for rent in most areas and each week we have new properties to let. The rents are affordable so why not have a look at the properties available this week by visiting our web site or by calling into our property shop or one of our offices (see contact details below).

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1 Register: by visiting our web site at www.chooseandmove.co.uk, visit our property shop in the town centre or call into one of our housing offices for a form.

2 Choose: let us know which properties you are interested in by making a bid before the closing date given on the web site.

3 Move: If you are successful we will arrange for you to view the property and sign the tenancy agreement.



HOMES AND FINANCIAL

TO LET



Flat 10, Stratford House, Terret Close, Walsall WS1 1EG

- Two bedrooms (Master bedroom with ensuite)
- Lounge/ diner
- Fitted kitchen
- Main bathroom
- Double glazing
- Security intercom
- Electric heating
- Off road allocated parking

£475 PCM

3RD FLOOR APARTMENT

TO LET



Fraser Street, Bilston WV14 7PD

- Two double bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Front room
- Living room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Rear garden

£450 PCM

END TERRACED HOUSE

TO LET



170 Lichfield Road, Brownhills, Walsall WS8 6JB

- Three double bedrooms
- Fitted kitchen
- Large lounge
- Family bathroom
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Enclosed rear garden

£500 PCM

FLAT ABOVE SHOP

TO LET



24 Exeter Place, Alumwell, Walsall, WS2 9UQ

- Three Bedrooms
- Large Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Driveway
- Enclosed Rear Gardens

£575 PCM

Semi- Detached House

TO LET



424 Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, WS2 8RJ

- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden

£495 PCM

Mid - Terrace House

TO LET



Chatha House, 18 Lichfield Street, Walsall WS1 1TJ

- Impressive double fronted building set behind ornamental railings and flower beds and high quality slatted area
- Entrance Lobby
- 19 Offices
- Reception ● Kitchen
- 3 Store Rooms
- 4 WC and disabled WC
- Cellar

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auCTION **HOUSE** **EDWARDS MOORE**

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Auction

Wednesday 11th April at
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QUICK SALE

BEST PRICE

Lot 1 4 Duncombe Green, Coleshill B46 1BP

Viewing: 10th April all at 11.00am



Guide Price £65,000-£75,000

This modern purpose built first floor maisonette boasting gas fired central heating and double glazing situated within a short distance of Coleshill village centre with facilities provided. The property offers an ideal opportunity for an investor and comprises:- Landing, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom.

Lot 2 26 Ashtree Road, Pelsall, WS3 4LR

Viewing: 5th April at 10.30am



Guide Price £80,000-£100,000

A traditionally styled semi-detached brick and tiled dwelling house situated within a short walk of Pelsall village centre with all facilities provided. Having the benefit of gas fired central heating and double glazing the property is in need of further improvement but offers an ideal opportunity for a first time buyer, young family or investor. Set back from the road behind a small fore garden flanked by drive leading into garage the property comprises the following:- Lounge, Inner Hallway, Rear Living Room, Kitchen, Bathroom, Separate W.C., Three Bedrooms, Garage and Fore and Rear Gardens.

Lot 3 117 Great Charles Street, Brownhills WS8 6AF

Viewing: 5th April at 10.00am



Guide Price £65,000-£75,000

This traditionally styled semi-detached property consisting of brick property constructed of brick under a pitch tiled roof set back from the road behind a tarmac driveway flanked by lawn and an attractive rear garden. Situated close to Brownhills centre the property has been well appointed and maintained and benefits from gas fired central heating and part double glazed and would make an ideal purchase for a first time buyer/investor. The accommodation comprises:- Reception Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Off Street Parking, Fore and good sized rear gardens.

Lot 4 Flat 8 Ridgeway Court, Bentley Road North, Walsall WS2 0PA

Viewing: Strictly by Appointment through Auctioneer on 01922 615222



Guide Price £40,000-£50,000

This purpose built first floor maisonette offers gas fired central heating and well planned accommodation being sold as an investment and comprises the following:- Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. The property is being sold as an investment property being let on a 12 month assured shorthold tenancy dating from 13th August 2011 in favour of Mr A Williams and Ms T Taylor at £415.00 per calendar month.

Lot 5 40 Treetops Drive, Willenhall WV12 4BQ

Viewing: Strictly by Appointment through Auctioneer on 01922 615222



Guide Price £30,000-£40,000

This purpose built first floor maisonette offering an ideal opportunity for an investor and the property is currently let on a recent 12 month assured shorthold tenancy. The property benefits from gas fired central heating and double glazing and comprises:- Entrance Hall, Landing, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom and Shower Room. The property is let on an assured shorthold tenancy commencing 12th January 2012 at £350 per calendar month in respect to Mr Wayne Spittle.

Lot 6 64 Mount Pleasant, Bilston WV14 7NE

Viewing: Strictly by Appointment through Auctioneer on 01922 615222



Guide Price £56,000-£66,000

This traditionally styled end of terraced residence is situated within a short distance of Bilston town centre offering banking and other facilities. Ideally suited to the needs of a first time buyer or investor the property comprises: Entrance Hall, Reception Hall, Lounge, Living Room, Kitchen, Rear Lobby, Shower Room, Three Bedrooms, Blue brick yard provides access to Rear Garden.

NEW GUIDE PRICE

Lot 7 3 Pine Close, Wolverhampton WV3 0UT

Viewing: 10th April at 12.00pm



A modern mid terraced property with the benefit of gas fired central heating and double glazing set in a quiet cul-de-sac within a short distance of Wolverhampton city centre making an ideal purchase for a first time buyer or investor. Set back from the road behind a lawned fore garden with an enclosed rear garden the property comprises: Enclosed Porch, Dining Area, Kitchen, Lounge, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, W.C.

Guide Price £60,000-£70,000

Lot 8 66 Birmingham Road, Walsall WS1 7NE

Viewing: 5th April at 11.45am



Guide Price £250,000-£275,000

This traditionally styled detached family residence is situated in a highly sought after residential area in South Walsall and offers truly spacious well planned living accommodation in need of improvement and modernisation. Boasting many of its original features the property is in an elevated position overlooking Mayfield playing fields and offers spacious, well planned living accommodation situated close to Walsall town centre. The property comprises:- Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Lobby, W.C./Utility, Five Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens.

Lot 9 1 Gower Street, Walsall WS2 9AS

Viewing: 5th April at 12.30pm



Guide Price £50,000 plus

This traditionally styled gas centrally heated and double glazed double fronted detached bungalow is in need of modernisation and improvement. The property comprises:- Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage and Gardens. To the side of the property there is a driveway to a yard and buildings. These are occupied by Mr N T Horton, who has a protected lease under the Landlord and Tenant Act of 1954, although there is no formal written lease, at a rent of £116.50 pcm. The lease also extends to the W.C. which although part of the bungalow has its own access, and water can be taken free of charge from the tap adjacent. The buildings on the Land are owned by the tenant. There is a right of way across the driveway in favour of the adjoining land owner.

Lot 10 20 New Street, Sheffield S4 1QD

Viewing: 5th April at 11.00am



In need of total modernisation and improvement, this traditional semi detached house offers plenty of potential for further development. Situated in this convenient and popular residential location the property will ideally suit those looking for a major project. The property briefly comprises:- Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Bedrooms, Fore and Rear Gardens.

Guide Price £30,000-£35,000



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**7 Queens Parade
Bloxwich
Walsall
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**Bloxwich
Kedleston Close**
● Four Bedroom Detached
● Lounge●Dining Room●Kitchen
● Study●Games Room●Utility●En-Suite
● Guest Cloakroom●Conservatory
● Family Bathroom●Detached Garage

In the Region of £239,950



**Bloxwich
Stafford Close**
● Three Bedroom Detached
● Lounge●Fitted Kitchen●Bathroom
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Off Road Parking
● Gas Central Heating & D.Glazing

In the Region of £220,000



**Bloxwich
Belfry Close**
● Four Bedroom Detached
● Two Reception Rooms
● Central Heating
● Double Glazing
● Garage
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Off Road Parking
● No Upward Chain

Offers in excess of £220,000



**Bloxwich
Field road**
● Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Fully Re-Furbed●Two Reception Rooms
● Re-Fitted Kitchen●Conservatory
● Utility Room●W.C●Family Bathroom
● Rear Garden●Garages & Workshop

Offers in excess of £200,000



**Willenhall
Essington Road**
● Four Bed Three Storey End-Terrace
● Double Glazing●Central Heating
● Lounge/Dining Room●Utility
● Fitted Kitchen●Bedroom with En-Suite
● Garage●Brick built Summerhouse

Offers in excess of £199,950



**Bloxwich
Broad Lane**
● Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Fitted Kitchen with Appliances
● Lounge/Diner●Cloakroom W.C.
● Family Bathroom●Front & Rear Gardens
● Garage & Off Road Parking

In the Region of £199,950



**Essington
Albany Grove**
● Four Bedroom Detached
● Two Reception Rooms
● Extended Kitchen●Conservatory
● Family Bathroom●Front & Rear Gardens
● Carport & Garage●Driveway

Offers in excess of £195,000



**Walsall
Lisheard Road**
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Through Lounge/Dining Room
● Fitted Kitchen●Integral Garage
● Family Bathroom & Separate W.C.
● Rear Garden●Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £180,000



**Bloxwich
Selsdon Road**
● Three Bedroom Detached
● Two Reception Rooms
● Kitchen●Cloakroom W.C.

Offers in excess of £179,950



● Family Bathroom
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Garage & Off Road Parking

In the Region of £179,950



**Willenhall
Wood Lane**
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Open Plan Lounge/Dining Room
● Fitted Kitchen●Family Bathroom
● Conservatory●Garage/Workshop
● Gardens●Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £170,00



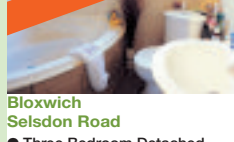
**Bloxwich
Broad Lane**
● Extended Four Bedroom Detached
● Two Reception Rooms
● Large Kitchen
● Family Bathroom
● Large Rear Garden
● Off Road Parking
● Part Double Glazed
● Part Gas Central Heating

Offers in excess of £165,000



**Bloxwich
Well Lane**
● Three Bedroom Detached
● Lounge/Diner
● Family Bathroom with separate W.C.
● Integral Garage●Front & Rear Gardens
● Large Driveway

Offers in excess of £130,000



**Bloxwich
Selsdon Road**
● Three Bedroom Detached
● Two Reception Rooms
● Kitchen●Cloakroom W.C.

Offers in excess of £179,950



● Family Bathroom
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Garage & Off Road Parking

In the Region of £179,950



**Bloxwich
Drake Road**
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Lounge●Kitchen●Bathroom
● Extended Dining Room
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Garage & Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £129,950



**Walsall
Lumley Road**
● Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
● Two Reception Rooms
● Extended Kitchen●Family Bathroom
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

Offers in excess of £125,000



**Bloxwich
Raymond Close**
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Lounge●Kitchen●Diner
● Shower Room●Separate W.C.
● Integral Garage●Front & Rear Gardens
● Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £120,000



**Bloxwich
Gleneagles Road**
● Two Bedroom Terrace
● Lounge●Kitchen●Diner
● Bathroom Double Glazing
● Central Heating●Front Driveway
● Rear Garden

Offers in excess of £115,000



**Willenhall
Rosewood Drive**
● Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace
● Lounge
● Kitchen/Diner
● Family Bathroom
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Double Glazing
● Gas Central Heating

In the Region of £112,500



**Walsall
Edinburgh Lane**
● Extended Two Bedroom Semi
● Kitchen●Two Reception Rooms
● Family Bathroom Double Glazed
● Gas Central Heating
● Rear Garden●Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £110,000



**Rushall
Springfields**
● Three Bedroom End Terrace
● Entrance Hall●Lounge
● Kitchen/Diner●Bathroom
● Patio Area●Gas Central Heating
● Double Glazing●Front & Rear Gardens

In the Region of £109,950



**Bloxwich
Hawbush Road**
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Lounge●Kitchen●Diner
● Utility Area●Cloakroom W.C.
● Family Bathroom●Rear Garden
● Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £95,000



**Walsall
Manorhouse Close**
● Two Bedroom Top Floor Apartment
● Allocated Parking for 2 cars
● Double Glazing Gas Central Heating
● Family Bathroom●Lounge/Kitchen
● Cloakroom/Storage Cupboard

Offers in excess of £90,000



**Bloxwich
Victoria Avenue**
● Two Bedroom End-Terrace
● Two Reception Rooms●Kitchen
● Ground Floor Bathroom
● Boarded Loft with Velux Window
● Rear Garden with Side Plot●Parking

In the Region of £89,950



**Bloxwich
Pershore Road**
● Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
● Lounge●Dining Room
● Kitchen●Family Bathroom
● Double Glazed●Central Heating
● Rear Garden●Off Road Parking

In the Region of £84,950



**Walsall
Ashfield Close**
● Three Bedroom End-Terrace
● Kitchen●L Shaped Lounge/Diner
● Family Bathroom●Gas Central Heating
● Double Glazing
● Front & Rear Gardens●NO CHAIN

Offers in excess of £80,000



**Bloxwich
Archer Road**
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Lounge
● Kitchen/Diner
● Double Glazing
● Gas Central Heating
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Off Road Parking
● NO CHAIN

Offers in excess of £82,000



**Bloxwich
Goscote Place**
● Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
● Lounge●Kitchen●Diner
● Cloakroom W.C●Bathroom
● Separate W.C●Front & Rear Gardens
● Central Heating & D.Glazing●NO CHAIN

In the Region of £75,000



**Willenhall
Argyll Court,Essington Road**
● One Bedroom Apartment
● Lounge●Fitted Kitchen
● Secure Communal Entrance
● Communal Grounds
● Secure Allocated Parking

In the Region of £67,950



**Bloxwich
Booth Street**
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Lounge●Kitchen
● Cloakroom W.C.
● Shower Room
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Ideal for First Time Buyer/Investor
● Viewing Essential
● NO CHAIN

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OFFERS £169,950



CHAUCER AVENUE, WILLENHALL

- Modern Three Bedroomed Semi-detached
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Two Reception Rooms
- Front Driveway and rear garden
- Side Garage
- Possible opportunity to buy on 50% shared ownership

OFFERS £124,950 or £62,500 for 50% share



COLTHAM ROAD, SHORT HEATH

- Three Bedroomed Semi-Detached
- Larger than Average Corner Plot
- Potential for Expansion
- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Two reception rooms
- Detached Garage
- No Upward Chain

OFFERS £110,000



HODSON AVENUE, WILLENHALL.

- Semi-Detached Residence
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Two Reception Rooms
- Detached Garage
- Large Rear Garden

OFFERS £105,000



WORCESTER ROAD, WILLENHALL

- Three Bedroomed Semi
- Gas Central Heating
- Extensive Double Glazing
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Off-road Parking Facilities

OFFERS £89,950



COTSWOLD GROVE, COPPICE FARM, WILLENHALL

- Ground floor Apartment for over 55's
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- Lounge
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£275pcm



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- First Floor Flat
- One Bedroom
- Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating
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£325pcm



BRADFORD LANE, WALSALL

- Small Detached Property
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- Shower Room
- Storage Heaters
- UPVC Double Glazing

£295pcm



CHURCH STREET, DARLASTON

- First Floor flat
- One Bedroom
- Hallway & Bathroom
- Kitchen & Lounge
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC DG

£300pcm



FAIRLAWN WAY, WILLENHALL

- First Floor Flat
- Living Room
- Kitchen
- One Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating

£325pcm



LODGE STREET, WILLENHALL

- Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Garage & Driveway
- GCH & DG
- Rear Garden

£525pcm



OAKWOOD MANOR, BLOXWICH

- First Floor Apartment
- Lounge
- Dining Area
- Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- GCH & DG

£470pcm



PARK AVENUE, ROWLEY REGIS

- Semi-Detached
- Lounge & Bathroom
- Kitchen/Dining Area
- Two Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Gas central Heating

£415pcm



WALSALL ROAD, WILLENHALL

- End Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Kitchen
- Bathroom, GCH, DG
- En-suite & D/stairs WC
- Parking & Garden

£510pcm

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- A 3 bed mid terrace property
- 2 spacious reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen with cooker
- Downstairs family bathroom
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- DSS accepted

NEW £495 pcm

Newbold Street

- A superb 3 bed semi detached
- 1 reception with feature fireplace
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Downstairs family bathroom
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Driveway and rear garden

NEW £475 pcm

Dora Street

- A 3 bed mid terrace property
- 2 spacious reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Downstairs family bathroom with shower
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- DSS accepted

NEW £450 pcm

Green Lane

- A superb 3 bed mid terrace
- 2 spacious reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Downstairs family bathroom with shower
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- DSS accepted

NEW £450 pcm

Dora Street

- A 3 bed mid terrace property
- Spacious through lounge
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Downstairs family bathroom
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- DSS accepted

NEW £450 pcm

Liskeard Road

- A 2/3 bedroom duplex apartment
- 1 spacious reception room
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Upstairs family bathroom with shower
- Double Glazing throughout
- DSS accepted

NEW £450 pcm

Burdock Close

- A modern 2 bed mid terrace property
- 1 spacious reception room
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Upstairs family bathroom with shower
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Parking, Enclosed rear garden

NEW £400 pcm

Eagleworks Drive

- A modern ground floor 1 bed apartment
- Open planned lounge and kitchen area
- Modern kitchen with appliances
- Pleasant family bathroom with shower
- Double Glazing throughout
- Allocated parking space

NEW £350 pcm

Paddock Lane

- A Re-furnished 1 bed apartment
- 1 reception room
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- New downstairs bathroom with shower
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- DSS accepted

£650 pcm

Honeybourne Way

- A stylish modern detached property
- Spacious lounge with feature fireplace
- Dining room and conservatory
- Modern fitted kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms 2 with fitted wardrobes
- Guest wc and upstairs family bathroom

£650 pcm

Lichfield Road

- A modernised 3 bed mid terrace
- 2 spacious reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Downstairs family bathroom
- Upstairs guest shower room
- Rear garden and block paved driveway

£595 pcm

Walstead Road

- Refurbished semi detached property
- 2 spacious reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- New modern family bathroom
- 3 Bedrooms 2 being doubles
- Fully enclosed rear garden with patio

£550 pcm

NEW PRICE

Lilac Grove

- A superb 3 bed semi detached
- 2 Spacious reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Upstairs family bathroom with shower
- Fully enclosed rear garden
- Gas central heating and double glazing

£550 pcm

Alderley Crescent

- A superb modern end terraced
- Spacious lounge with fireplace
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Guest WC and upstairs family Bathroom
- 3 Good sized bedrooms
- Fully enclosed rear garden

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£500cm

NEW PRICE

Broadway

- Spacious 3 bed semi detached
- Large through lounge
- Fitted kitchen with cooker/utility
- Upstairs family bathroom with shower
- Driveway with garage
- Fore and rear gardens

£500 pcm

Highgate Avenue

- A Stylish 1st floor apartment
- Modern fitted kitchen/Utility
- Spacious lounge area
- Luxury bathroom with separate WC
- 3 Double bedrooms
- GCH Throughout/Parking

£495 pcm

NEW PRICE

Tong Street

- An Excellent 3 bed terraced property
- 2 spacious reception rooms
- New modern fitted kitchen
- Modern downstairs bathroom
- 3 Good sized bedrooms
- GCH and DG. DSS Accepted

£495 pcm

Castle Street

- Spacious 3 bed mid terraced
- 2 Spacious reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- New bathroom with shower over bath
- Large rear garden
- Dss accepted with guarantor

£475 pcm

Walsingham Street

- A re-furnished 2 bed mid terrace
- 1 spacious reception room
- Large modern fitted kitchen/diner
- Recently installed downstairs bathroom
- Gas Central Heating throughout
- dss ACCEPTED

£475 pcm

Bloxwich Road

Very spacious first floor flat
Fitted kitchen/dining area
Family bathroom/separate toilet
2 double bedrooms
Spacious reception room
Dss accepted/rent in arrears for HB

£450 pcm

Milton Street

- Traditional 3 bed terraced
- 2 Spacious reception rooms
- Downstairs family bathroom
- Fitted kitchen with cooker
- Dss accepted, Rent in arrears

£450 pcm

West Bromwich Road

- Traditional mid terraced property
- 2 Spacious reception rooms
- Downstairs family bathroom
- Fitted kitchen
- Gas central heating and DG
- Dss accepted/Rent in arrears for HB

£450 pcm

Green lane

- Traditional mid terraced property
- 2 Spacious reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen
- Downstairs family bathroom
- 2 Double bedrooms
- Dss accepted/Rent in arrears for HB

£450 pcm

St Georges Court

- A Superb 1 bed 2nd floor apartment
- Open planned lounge/kitchen area
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Pleasant family bathroom
- Parking space and views of the town
- DSS accepted

£395 pcm

Tudor House

- 1 Bed first floor apartment
- Town centre location
- Spacious lounge
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern bathroom
- Dss accepted with guarantor

£380 pcm

Leicester Street

- A highly desirable one bed apartment
- Open planned living area
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- Integrated kitchen appliances
- Electric heating throughout
- Town centre location



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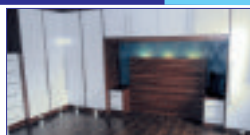
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- Five Bedrooms!
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing

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- Lounge
- Guest W.C
- Fitted Kitchen
- En-suite Shower Room

£144,950

OFFERS AROUND:

Loxdale Street Bilston **NEW**



- Immaculate 2 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- A Much Extended Unique Property
- UPVC Double Glazing & Central Heating (as specified)
- 21ft Through Lounge/Diner

Viewing: 01902 633323

£110,000

Willenhall Brunslow Close **NEW**



- Ground Floor Flat
- Well Presented Throughout
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing

Viewing 01902 633323



- Two Double Bedrooms
- Living Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Fitted Shower Room/WC

£64,950

OFFERS AROUND:

Newman Avenue Wolverhampton **NEW**



- Ground Floor
- Double Bedroom
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- Gas Central Heating

Viewing: 01902 633323

£64,950

Terrace Villas Darlaston



- Extended Semi detached
- Improved And Upgraded
- 5 Bedrooms
- Central heating and double glazing

Viewing: 01902 633323

£199,950

Mill Lane Willenhall



- Substantial Detached House
- 5 Bedrooms
- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain

Viewing: 01902 633323

£285,000

James Street Willenhall



- Spacious Traditional Semi
- 3 Double Bedrooms
- Central Heating and Part Double Glazing
- Desirable Location Close to Park

Viewing: 01902 633323

£175,000

Evans Street Willenhall



- Semi detached
- 3 bedroom
- No upward chain
- Lounge

Viewing: 01902 633323

£90,000

All Saints Road Darlaston



- 3 Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Gas Central Heating (as specified)
- No Upward Chain!
- Lounge with cast Iron Fireplace

Viewing: 0121 505 3533

£89,995

Sneyd Lane Wolverhampton



- 4 Bedroom Detached Home
- Extended and Much Improved
- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain

Viewing: 01902 633323

£300,000

Keysmith Close Willenhall



Paul Dubberley & Co are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £50,000 for 20 Keysmith Close, Willenhall, WV13 2DQ. Anyone wishing to place an offer on this property should contact Paul Dubberley & Co, 14 New Road, Willenhall, WV13 2BQ, 01902 633323 before exchange of contracts.

OFFERS AROUND:

£74,950

Wilkes Avenue Walsall



• Spacious and well Presented Semi-Detached

Viewing: 01902 633323

£92,500

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- In Need of Upgrading

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- Entrance Porch and Hall
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- Dining Room and Office

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£235,000

Temple Road Willenhall



- Ground Floor Flat
- 2 Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing

Viewing: 01902 633323

£58,000

Stroud Avenue Willenhall



- Immaculately Presented
- 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Reception Hallway
- Kitchen/Diner

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£149,950

Kingfisher Grove Willenhall



- Modern Detached House
- 4 Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing

Viewing: 01902 633323

£174,950

Bradley Lane Bilston



- A Traditional 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- A Short Walk from Midland Metro
- Double Glazed (as specified)
- No Upward Chain!

Viewing: 0121 505 3533

£99,995

Fawley Close Willenhall



- 3 Bed Detached House
- UPVC double glazing
- Entrance Hall
- Fitted Kitchen Diner

Viewing: 01902 633323

£149,950

Broad Lane South Wolverhampton



- Impressive Family Home
- Extended and Upgraded
- Sought After Location
- 4 Good Bedrooms

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£389,950

Eaton Rise Willenhall



- Extended Detached Bungalow
- Generous Corner Plot
- 3 Bedrooms
- Adjoining 33ft Annex

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£179,995

William Green Road Wednesbury



- A 2 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
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- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (as specified)

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£104,995

Frost Street Wolverhampton



- Spacious 3 Storey Town-House
- 3/4 Bedrooms
- Reception Hall
- 2 Reception Rooms

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£95,000

Delamere Road Willenhall



- Well Presented Semi-Detached
- 3 Good Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing

Viewing: 01902 633323

£134,950

Cook Street Darlaston



- Improved Modern End Terrace
- Porch Entrance & Reception Hall
- Lounge
- Conservatory

Viewing: 0121 505 3533

£114,995

Cedar Road Willenhall



- Extended Semi-Detached
- 3 Bedrooms with Balcony off Master
- Double Glazing
- Warm air Central Heating

Viewing: 01902 633323

£134,950

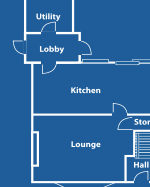
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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

Drop-top Mini is most selfish ever but so stylish

WHO said greed was bad? Doing the right thing is usually shorthand for being selfless and putting the needs of others first.

But at what point do you get to do something for yourself? This logic applies as much to cars as it does to where you go on holiday.

Happily, Mini can now help you treat yourself with the most selfish Mini to date – the Roadster.

It's not really selfish of course; it's just biased towards the needs of the driver and possible passenger as this is the first two-seater drop-top Mini.

It's not the only Mini with a folding fabric roof of course, as there's been a Mini Convertible from the first generation model.

But that car is based on the hatchback while the Roadster is based on the Mini Coupe, which makes it something of a different animal. For starters, the lack of a fixed metal roof may give it the edge over the Coupe in some people's eyes – whether roof up

By Matt Joy

or down, the Roadster is a pretty little thing and the typical Mini styling cues translate well to the open-air shape.

Like all Minis, there's an element of choosing your own style, with colour and wheel combinations having a big impact on the overall look.

But it has a pert rump, chrome rollover bars and clean lines where the roof folds away, and therefore most people will find it ticks the box marked 'attractive' right from the off.

Losing seating for two in the back might seem like a significant sacrifice, but if you can live with that then the upshot is more boot space. A total of 240 litres of storage is on offer in the rear compartment, regardless of whether the roof is up or down, and behind the seats there's a through-loading facility, the kind of practical-

ity you don't really expect from a car like this. In the cabin there's not a huge amount of storage space for oddments, but you can reach into the back without any fuss.

The same goes for the roof mechanism. Whether you opt for the manual or semi-automatic roof option, folding or raising the roof is the work of a moment.

Raising the roof requires you to reach behind to mechanically release the roof from its stowed position, but you should soon be able to do this without looking. The extra-lazy among you will appreciate the electric assistance.

Popular

Under the bonnet the Roadster comes in four flavours: Cooper and Cooper S, Cooper SD and John Cooper Works, but it's the Cooper S which is likely to be the most popular petrol option.

With 182bhp and 177lb.ft of torque (with an overboost facility up to 192lb.ft), it gets along as smartly as you would hope.

In fact the linear delivery of the engine almost disguises how fast it is; it revs keenly and without any power peaks, then you look down at the speedometer and realise just how quickly it has accelerated.

There's also a pleasing, purposeful noise coming from the exhaust – well short of raucous or loud – but enough to remind you this is a car designed for fun.

The theme continues when you hit the first bend. All convertible cars are compromised to a degree by the absence of a metal roof holding them together, but in truth the only time you even notice is if you slap into a particularly bad bump at speed.

The rest of the time the Mini Roadster displays all the vim and enthusiasm of its siblings, turning in keenly, gripping strongly and encouraging you to exploit its abilities.

Yes, in ultimate terms the Coupe would offer a purer drive, but on the one day of the year that mattered, you'd miss the 100-odd days of sunshine-bathed, roof-down motoring.

What makes all this fun even more pleasurable is that you don't have to sell your soul to do it.

The list price is not insignificant, but neither is it expensive for a two-seater roadster with a powerful turbocharged engine.

It's also only £600 more than the less pretty and less fun Convertible.

But with a combined fuel economy figure of 47.1mpg and CO2 emissions of 139g/km, it certainly doesn't cost sports car money to run.

Although, like all Minis, resisting the temptation to make it uniquely yours will be hard to resist.

Good luck keeping your sensible head on.



Most people will find the car attractive right from the off

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The French car-maker is to reduce prices

Citroën cuts the price of greener motoring

Citroën UK has announced the next phase in its Electric Vehicle (EV) sales development programme.

Key elements in this integrated plan for growth are; a significant OTR price reduction to just £21,216 after the Government's £5,000 Plug-in Car Grant; a monthly rental reduction to just £249; and a significant increase in the size and coverage of Citroën UK's EV Specialist Dealer Network.

Supporting C-Zero's new price positioning, Citroën has confirmed that it will extend its EV Specialist sales network from 11 to 21 dealers. The additional 10 will be located in UK cities not covered by the original Citroën EV network. Further expansion is set to continue as part of a staged roll-out as market acceptance of electric vehicles increases and sales volumes grow.

Citroën has also confirmed that the after-sales EV network will be extended from the 11 initial specialist dealers to a network of

around 100 locations over the coming months. All of the newly appointed EV service dealers have already received specialist training as part of the DS5 Hybrid4 launch, allowing them to service and repair C-Zero and future Citroën EV models.

Citroën's EV range will grow at the beginning of 2013 with the introduction of a new electric Berlingo van, which will qualify for the recently announced extension to the Government's EV grant, with a maximum of £8,000 support towards the purchase price of electric commercial vehicles.

Linda Jackson, Citroën UK's Managing Director, said: "2011 marked the introduction of EV's in the UK. 2012 will see the market continue to grow as the technology becomes more accepted by consumers, more manufacturers enter the market and the charging infrastructure continues to develop. Citroën has been at the forefront with C-Zero and this latest announcement confirms the next stage in our development plans."

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TIPS OF THE WEEK

If things don't seem to be going according to plan, don't forget builders aren't mind readers. Take a moment to spell out your problem and explain carefully what you do want.

Talk to the 'main person'. Telling sub-contractors to change things mid-construction will not only cause problems within the team but also confuse everyone as to what it is you really want.

If you are planning to sell your home make don't ignore 'unseen factors' such as damp proofing, tidy guttering, efficient drains, good pointing and secure roof tiles. These are all factors that may persuade a buyer to put an offer on your house rather than the one next door.

Finally, now that spring has arrived don't forget to check exterior timber for signs of decay and check your exterior paintwork to see how it has held up over the winter.

The Federation of Master Builders (FMB), the largest trade association in the UK construction industry, <http://www.fmb.org.uk/fab/>.



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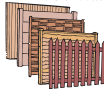
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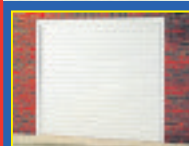
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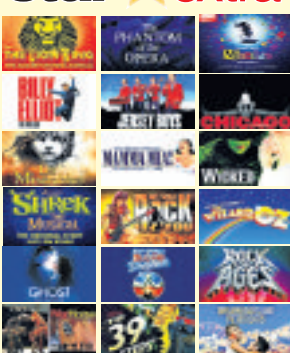
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Staffordshire County Council

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING AND COMPENSATION ACT 1991
PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DETERMINATION OF A SCHEME OF CONDITIONS FOR A REGISTERED OLD MINING PERMISSION
Notice is hereby given that an application has been made to Staffordshire County Council by Wienerburger Limited for the approval of a scheme of conditions for a registered old mining permission at Warstone Site, Essington and that the application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

Application Number: SS.12/04/680 MW
A copy of the scheme of conditions, the plans, the Environment Statement and any other documents submitted with the application may be inspected during normal office hours at the Staffordshire County Council, No. 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford, ST16 2DH, the offices of South Staffordshire Council, Planning Department, Council Offices, Codsall or at Cheslyn Hay Library, High Street, Cheslyn Hay, Walsall until 3 May 2012. The documents are also available on the Staffordshire Planning web page www.staffordshire.gov.uk/planning. Go to the Application Register, enter the application number and click on the 'documents' tab.

Members of the public may obtain copies of the full Environmental Statement from Wienerburger Limited, Kingsbury Works, Rush Lane, Dosthill, Tamworth, B77 1LT, so long as stocks last, at a charge of £45.00 for a hard copy and £20 for a CD copy.

The Case Officer who is dealing with this application is **Matthew Griffin** who can be contacted on 01785 272775.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write, quoting the application number and providing their full address and post code, to the Director for Place & Deputy Chief Executive, Block A, Wedgwood Building, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH marked for the attention of the Case Officer referred to above by 3 May 2012. Alternatively you can make your representations via the Staffordshire Planning web page www.staffordshire.gov.uk/planning. Simply go to the Applications Register and enter the application number.

Please note: any representations received are open to all to read and to copy (including, but not limited to, the applicant, the applicant's agent, the public or the press). Copyright restrictions and photocopying charges may apply. If for any reason you do not want your representations to be made publicly available in this way then you have the right to withdraw them, in which case we will delete your representation from our records and the comments will not be considered by the Director for Place & Deputy Chief Executive or the Planning Committee. Also, in the event of an appeal being made any representations would be passed to the Planning Inspectorate for consideration as part of the appeal and they may publish details of your comments, on the internet (on the Appeals area of the Planning Portal www.planningportal.gov.uk/appeal).

Signed: Catherine L Raines BPharm PhD FRSA
On behalf of Staffordshire County Council
Date: 5 April 2012

Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control

The below applications have been made to Walsall Council.
Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning

Representations can be made online, email: planningservices@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG.

Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Please note: Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
07/1535/FL/E11
Ian Cox

FOR: Demolition of former Public House and construction of 58 Flats.
AT: FORMER WARRENERS ARMS PUBLIC HOUSE, HIGH STREET/OGLEY ROAD, BROWNHILLS, WALSALL

Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
(Application Affecting a Public Right of Way)
12/0262/FL

Mr S. Chis
FOR: Ground floor front extension and garage conversion.
AT: 68 HUNTS LANE, WILLENHALL, WS12 5NZ

Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990. (Section 73).
Applications Affecting the setting of a Conservation Area and/or a Listed Building
12/0330/FL
Mr Mohammed Afiah

FOR: Erection of detached garage in rear garden
AT: 24 EMERY STREET, WALSALL, WS1 3AJ

Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990. (Section 73).
Applications Affecting a Conservation Area and/or a Listed Building
12/0335/AD
Age UK Walsall

FOR: Erection of 1 no. non illuminating fascia measuring 1.5m x 0.4m.
AT: 10 THE BRIDGE, WALSALL, WS1 1LR

12/0348/FL
Mr Martyn Dabbs
FOR: First floor side extension with car port under.
AT: 33 MILLENNIUM CLOSE, PELSALL, WS3 4PL

public & legal notices

SHIRE OAK ACADEMY ADMISSION NUMBER FROM SEPTEMBER 2013 YEAR 7

Published Admission Number = 238
Enhanced Resource Facility: = 2 places per year

In line with Education Walsall's development proposals for special educational needs, the governors at the school agreed to an additionally resourced provision being maintained within the school. The additional resources are deployed so that the needs of up to ten children in total who have specialised learning needs (including dyslexia) can be met.

Governors are proposing to maintain these numbers as opposed to the Net Capacity Number of 255 as assessed under the relevant guidance (DfES/0739/2001/REV).

They base their decision on the following factors:

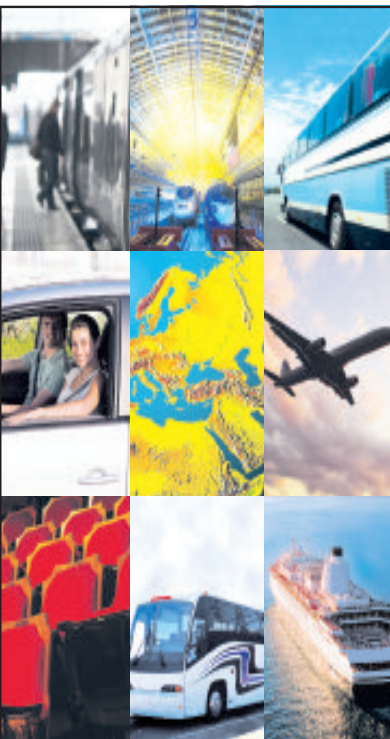
- Ensuring all students are taught in set sizes where they can achieve to the full and where physical and human resources can be effectively deployed.
- Maintaining average class sizes in Year 7 to 11 to allow our special needs policy regarding class sizes to be maintained.
- Their health and safety responsibility continuing to be carried out to the benefit of all students and other personnel on site.
- Honouring previous commitments to parents, particularly in respect of students facing academic and physical challenges in providing smaller teaching set sizes to enable them to capitalise upon their full potential.

The above proposal was determined at a meeting of the full Governing Body on 28th March, 2012. Any parent may raise an objection to Governors proposing to determine an admission number which is lower than the Indicated Admission number shown in the school's new Net Capacity Assessment Form.

If you wish to raise any objections you must contact the Schools Adjudicator by 30th June. However, the Schools Adjudicator has discretion to consider late objections.

"Office of the Schools Adjudicator
Mowden Hall, Staindrop Road, Darlington, DL3 9BG"

Notice dated: 1st April, 2012
Note: The school's admission criteria for 2013/2014 are available to view on the school's website: www.shire-oak.walsall.sch.uk



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Safety is assured after win for visitors

Walsall 32 Whitchurch 33

THIS end of season game had far more significance for Whitchurch than Walsall.

The hosts are now looking for a fourth or fifth place finish, while in contrast the Shropshire team were looking for a win to avoid the possibility of relegation from Midlands One West.

The final result gives a fairly accurate reflection of a high scoring, free flowing game of rugby with Whitchurch's fighting qualities securing them an unlikely victory.

Both teams scored four tries, the first of which came from Walsall winger Rafa Ingelmo which Matt Wood converted. The visitors drew level after a few minutes with Nicholas converting Ollie Bates' effort.

Flanker Breton touched down for Whitchurch's next try and the scoring continued as Andy turned crossed the line – and all within the first 15 minutes.

Nicholas gave his team the lead with a penalty, but just before the whistle, Ben Potts ran through from 20 metres for Walsall and Wood converted.

The start of the second half proved to be crucial as Nicholas put over two penalties for Whitchurch.

Walsall came back with a second try from Ingelmo and Wood's conversion put them 26-21 to the good.

But another mix up at the kick off led to Walsall gifting a try to scrum half Matthews. The easy conversion saw the Shropshire team take a two point lead.

Wood was on target with two 30-metre penalties that saw Walsall lead 32-28 with just three minutes left.

But they could not hang on as a clearance kick was charged down and No8 Robinson gathered the ball and crashed over for what proved to be the final score.

The final action saw Wood pull a 40-metre penalty just wide of the upright, ensuring Whitchurch won to guarantee their league status next season.

There was another surprise in the 2nd XV game as Walsall suffered only their second defeat of the season, going down 31-27 to Dudley Kingswinford.

Captain Mark Reeves scored their first try, and there was one each for Neil Pittaway, Nick Field and debutant Ian Tucker.

Andy Hawkins put over a penalty and two conversions.



Saddlers keeper David Grof punches clear as Rochdale attack



Emmanuel Ledesma and Florent Cuvelier



Gary Jones is closed down by Manny Smith (left) and Sam Mantom

Relegation picture still far from clear

Rochdale 3 Walsall 3

IT looks as if Walsall are heading for a photo-finish in their bid to beat the drop following a dramatic afternoon at Spotland.

At half-time the Saddlers were picture perfect. With a minute left they were looking at the negatives. And at full-time they were still in the relegation frame as their drop fight continued to develop.

Emmanuel Ledesma celebrated Walsall going 2-0 up at Rochdale by borrowing Express & Star photographer Alan Evans' camera to take a snapshot of his teammates.

But after looking at their 3-3 draw through a lens the Saddlers will need to digest the result in a dark room.

From control, to despair, to elation – the Saddlers went through the whole gamut of emotions during an afternoon which saw them go from comfort to calamity.

Andy Butler's 93rd-minute equaliser snatched a point when Walsall seemed to have blown all three.

The overriding factor with Dean Smith's side is that they can be never written off – but you can never put your house on them.

This game symbolised the Saddlers' season – they gave themselves a chance but never quite took it.

Sheffield United, Bournemouth, Sheffield Wednesday and now Rochdale have been beneficiaries of Walsall's generosity.

You are going to lose points over the course of the season and teams do not hang on to every lead they earn.

But when the Saddlers have lost 26 points from winning positions, fingers have to be pointed.

Whether Saturday is a point gained or two dropped is subject for debate. Walsall should never have put themselves in such a desperate position. They let a poor Rochdale side back into the game through a combination of naivety and poor decision making.

After being so comfortable for an hour it



Defender Andy Butler (left) sets off to celebrate his last-gasp goal that earned the Saddlers a much-needed point at Rochdale

is two points lost but, at 3-2 down with 30 seconds remaining, it is certainly one gained.

It maintained the status quo between the Saddlers and fourth-bottom Wycombe after the Chairboys bagged their own last-minute equaliser in their 1-1 draw at Stevenage.

Walsall are still two points ahead of the drop zone with just six matches left.

That the Saddlers didn't surrender any advantage to their rivals is a source of solace in what increasingly looks to be a straight survival shoot-out between them and Wycombe.

The three sides below – Rochdale, Exeter and Chesterfield – are all but down and Bury's win over Tranmere moved them three points clear of the Saddlers.

At half-time Walsall were closing in on the top half of the table but now, after their 19th draw of the season, securing 20th place is their first and only target.

Smith insisted he would not dwell on the result but should the Saddlers lose their fight for survival their afternoon at Spotland will be their biggest 'what if' moment of the season – and there have been a few.

How important the point – or the two lost – will prove only time will tell.

Emmanuel Ledesma and Joe Widdowson's own goal had put Walsall in complete control and there was no suggestion a limited Rochdale side could hit back.

Ledesma's 25-yard stunner pierced a mediocre game as the teams cancelled each other out. Dale bossed possession but failed to breakdown the Saddlers, who themselves struggled to create clear openings.

And the hosts would have been aggrieved to fall 2-0 behind when Widdowson's looping header from Ledesma's free-kick dropped into the corner of his own net eight minutes before the break.

There seemed no way back for Dale but,

after Florent Cuvelier and Kevan Hurst squandered openings, Jean-Louis Akpa Akpro stabbed in to start their comeback.

And the Saddlers continued to implode when Mat Sadler clipped Jason Kennedy and Michael Symes levelled from the spot with eight minutes left.

The momentum continued to shift and David Grof tipped Andrew Tutte's effort wide before Akpa Akpro netted with a minute left when Walsall failed to clear a corner.

All seemed lost but when Sadler launched it long from the kick-off, Butler rose between two defenders to loop a brilliant header over the stranded David Lucas from 18-yards.

Rochdale had to win – their joy at scoring a third contrasted the sheer desperation at conceding Butler's late leveller.

And Walsall's celebrations said it all too. A picture paints a thousand words.

thechronicle

Early lead then it's rearguard defence

Whittington 8 Aldridge 14

ALDRIDGE got the best of starts in last Saturday's penultimate league encounter with Whittington.

With the echo of the referee's whistle barely faded, full-back Ben Drinkwater launched a speculative kick into the home side's 22.

With some determined following up, he collected the fortuitous bounce and scampered over between the sticks.

Winger Alex Yates added the extras and the visitors were seven points up with barely a minute on the clock.

Whittington hit straight back and their forwards forced the ball into the Aldridge 22 and were awarded a penalty, slotted by No 10 Nigel Brookes.

Aldridge then had their best spell, establishing sufficient momentum to contain the play in the opposition territory for almost the rest of the half.

Eventually the pressure told and lock Terry Gibbs bludgeoned his way over close to the posts and Yates converted.

Almost at the break, Whittington took advantage of a yellow carding and gained a footing in the right corner.

From an attacking line-out, their back line combined to create an overlap which put full-back Ben Hemmings over in the opposition corner.

In the second period Whittington threw everything at Aldridge, who rarely got out of their half. But the defence hung on grimly and rode out the half without conceding a score.

Bishop on the mark

Bloxwich Rangers Under-11s 5 Silverdale Spartans 2

BLOXWICH RANGERS turned on the power as they eased into the semi-finals of the Steve Richards Cup.

Silverdale took the lead with a Billy Shingler but goals from Josh Foster and Daniel Bishop gave Rangers a 2-1 half-time lead.

Rangers dominated the game with further strikes from Jack Craddock and Bishop before Raushan Kapoor gave Silverdale a lifeline.

But that was short-lived as man of the match Bishop got his third and Rangers' fifth to seal their place in the last four.



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Photo-finish

Saddlers grab a dramatic point

Page 55



Away-day joy

Aldridge dig in for victory

Page 55

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Hat-trick for Nicol just Andy for hosts

Alvechurch 4 Willenhall Town 1
WILLENHALL suffered more travel problems as they slumped to another away-day defeat, this time to an Alvechurch side hoping to avoid relegation from the Midland Alliance.

There was precious little to enjoy for either side until the home side took the lead through hat-trick hero Andy Nicol who pounced on a free kick into the box on 21 minutes.

Mitch Fellows was played in on goal by an astute Jemiah Richards pass, but home keeper Lewis Gwilliams was out quickly to block the striker's effort.

The home side stretched their lead on 37 minutes with a wonder strike from Nicol. He received the ball in the centre circle and advanced goalwards before letting fly with a vicious 30-yard effort that flew into the net.

Church made it 3-0 on 62 minutes when skipper Elliot Nash was found unmarked at the far post after a quick counter attack. He fired across Tom Wright and into the corner.

Reece Leek reduced the arrears for the Lockmen on 71 minutes when he was played into the box and he advanced on goal before firing across Gwilliams and into the bottom corner.

However the home side rounded off the scoring deep into stoppage time when Nicol was allowed too much space and he turned and fired to net his third.

Pelsall are just edged out by Star

Continental Star 1 Pelsall 0
PELSALL were left cursing their luck as they slipped to defeat against Midland Combination Premier title chasers Continental Star.

Star captain Davion Hamilton's second half free-kick wrong-footed Pelsall keeper Josh Bowker for the winning goal.

Pelsall's Peter Bromley and Simon Drake both hit the woodwork in the first half, while Star's best chance fell to Hamilton whose effort was cleared.

Phil Gayle miscued when well placed early in the second period than shot just over from the edge of the box.

Hamilton's winner came shortly after Star's claims for a penalty were rejected.

Victoria rule again as Pics lose away

RUSHALL drew another blank on their second visit in four days to The Weaver Stadium.

They followed up a heavy midweek defeat against Nantwich Town with a loss at the hands of second-placed Northwich Victoria.

The Pics made three changes to the starting line-up who had meekly surrendered during in the second-half on Tuesday.

Decio Gomes came in for injured captain

Lucan Spittle, Martyn Naylor returned to the ranks as captain following suspension to replace injured Christian Dacres, while player-coach Nick Amos returned as Ahmed Obeng dropped to the bench. Sixteen

Northwich 2 Rushall 0

minutes in the Pics had the ball in the back of the net, when Alex Melbourne's cross from the left by-line was clinically driven first time into the roof of the net by Craig Bannister at the near post.

Rushall's problems effectively doubled within seven minutes when, with first-half stoppage time in progress, Mitchell Tolley failed to pick up the run of midfielder Michael Roddy.

He drifted inside from the left flank and proceeded to unleash a great lofted effort from distance that looped over Gemmell and

his colleagues were less alert to the inherent danger and were slow to react to the loose ball.

This allowed Northwich to shepherd it back in to the danger zone where Nathan Woolfe evaded a challenge to drill beyond Gemmell into the bottom corner.

Rushall's problems effectively doubled within seven minutes when, with first-half stoppage time in progress, Mitchell Tolley failed to pick up the run of midfielder Michael Roddy.

He drifted inside from the left flank and proceeded to unleash a great lofted effort from distance that looped over Gemmell and

dropped inside the far post. Although the hosts had established a more than comfortable interval advantage, Olympic made most of the early running during the opening phase of the second period.

In the 48th minute, Melbourne again tried his luck from the edge of the box with a strike going straight into the arms of Northwich custodian Ben Hinchcliffe.

Three minutes later and a deep free-kick from skipper Naylor was flicked goalwards by the head of James Skedgel, but the goalkeeper was equal to the challenge and pushed the ball around his left hand upright.

Wood let chances go to waste

Bloxwich United 1 Walsall Wood 0

YET another setback in Wood's rollercoaster season as they wasted a host of first half chances before falling to a 47th minute goal.

With neither Cadbury or Castle Vale JKS playing, Wood are still off the bottom.

The first 10 minutes saw both sides unable to break down the last line of defence.

Then Adrian Jones played a high ball forward and Chris Lewis was beaten by a ridiculous bounce.

Josh Jones pounced to lob Wood keeper Dale Faultless, but Lewis recovered to calmly clear the danger.

Wood had scoring chances in the first half but their efforts came to nothing.

Two minutes into the second half Josh Jones pressured the Wood defence and keeper into a mistake. He won the ball and squared it to Leon Taylor to score.

Wood put the home defence under pressure but despite numerous corners could not convert any chances.

MANTOM SIGNS ON FOR SURVIVAL PUSH

WALSALL have boosted their League One survival hopes by securing the services of loan midfielder Sam Mantom until the end of the season.

The Albion youngster has impressed since arriving at The Banks's Stadium last month and will now continue his football education under the guidance of Walsall boss Dean Smith and then review his future during the pre-season weeks back at his parent club.

But the news that he is now clear to continue in Walsall's midfield as the Saddlers approach their League One survival crunch point is a significant development for Smith.

"Sam has done really well for us," said the Saddlers boss.

"We had been looking at him for a long time and felt that he was ready to come in - and he's done a really good job."

"I like his game a lot - he keeps it simple, has got a great passing range and pops up with a goal or two."

"He's tired a little because he simply has not been used to this many games in the last month but he has got a big role to play for us."

The 20-year-old is delighted to have secured for himself the chance to add invaluable experience of a tough League One survival battle to his CV.

But he has genuinely relished his Saddlers opportunity and said: "I'm really enjoying it here - they are a great set of lads, really friendly and they all want to do well for the club."

"One loss in 11 shows how well the team are doing and how much confidence there is."

"We're playing good football, pleasing the fans and

by Martin Swain

pleasing ourselves because we know we're playing well enough to win games.

"I wanted to get at least five or six games but I've done well and proved myself at this standard."

"The gaffer wanted to keep me until the end of the season so I can help them stay up."

"You don't get this every day - fighting relegation. Reserve team football is a bit non-contact at times. You're not really playing for anything, you haven't got points to play for, bonuses, things at stake to keep the club afloat. You are not going to lose your job if you lose."

"But now, in this league, you've got to fight for every game and keep your place in the team."

Mantom's next on-field assignment comes on Saturday when Walsall entertain bottom club Chesterfield in a relegation six-pointer.

But Smith reckons his men are in good shape adding: "We're a tight-knit group and we have been able to keep the lads together - the training ground is a fun place to be during the week but they know it's a serious business on a Saturday afternoon."

Golden girl Denise is a hit

WALSALL COLLEGE SPORTS students struck gold when they were able to put their questions to Olympic Heptathlon champion, Denise Lewis, at the VIP launch of the Holiday Inn, Walsall.

Lewis, OBE, who was a guest of honour at the Olympic-themed event, won a gold medal in the heptathlon at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

The students had a question and answer session with the former golden girl of British athletics, where they asked for her advice on their training regimes, diet and nutrition and her experiences at her age.

Impressed

The athlete also spoke to students about their aspirations for the future and was impressed by the fact they kept training diaries.

Lewis said: "It is important to focus on your passion and be determined to reach your goals."

"I never imagined what I would achieve, but I always had the self-belief that I could do it."

"The main advice that I would give to the students is to seize every opportunity that comes their way, be disciplined and work extremely hard."

Lewis is also the 2012 School Games Ambassador and she talked about



Former Olympic gold medalist Denise Lewis (centre) was the star of the show as she passed on advice to students from Walsall College at the Holiday Inn

how excited she is that the Olympics are being held in London this summer.

She said: "It's a fantastic chance to get more young people engaged in sport and means the future is looking very bright for sport in the UK."

Student, Jessica Rayner said: "It was amazing to

meet Denise Lewis. She is someone I really admire."

"She has represented her country at the highest level and achieved so much in her career."

"She gave us a lot of great advice and was truly inspiring."

Curriculum Manager for Sport at Walsall College,

Rayna Jones, commented: "We are very grateful to Denise Lewis for giving up her time to speak to the students and to staff at the Holiday Inn for inviting us to their launch."

"This once in a lifetime experience, will stay with the students for a very long time."

Youngsters eyeing glory

YOUNG rugby stars from Walsall are among the cream of Staffordshire's young talent travelling to Leek in April for the county under-9s tournament.

Fourteen teams from across Staffordshire will contest the tournament at F. Ball Park, home to the reigning age group champions Leek RUFC, on Sunday April 22.

Sides from Barton-under-Needwood, Lichfield, Newcastle, Stafford, Stoke, Tamworth, Uttoxeter, Walsall and Wolverhampton will battle it out with the host club for the honour of being named Staffordshire champions.

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